



SUPPLEMENT TO The Calcutta Gazette.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 1870.

OFFICIAL PAPERS.

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Proceedings of the Council of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal for the purpose of making Laws and Regulations.

Saturday, the 22nd January 1870.

Present:

HIS HONOR THE LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR OF BENGAL, *Presiding.*

T. H. COWIE, Esq., *Advocate-General,*
THE HON'BLE ASHLEY EDEN,
A. MONEY, Esq., C. B.,
A. R. THOMPSON, Esq.,
RAJAH SATYANUND GHOSAL,

BABOO CHUNDER MOHUN CHATTERJEE,
T. M. ROBINSON, Esq.,
F. F. WYMAN, Esq.,
(AND
BABOO JOTEENDRO MOHUN TAGORE.

VILLAGE CHOWKEEDARS.

MR. RIVERS THOMPSON moved for leave to bring in a Bill to provide for the appointment and maintenance of village chowkeedars.

He said that the subject, the discussion of which the Council was now approaching for the purpose of legislation, was one which had very largely occupied the attention of the Government during the last thirty years; and though in dealing with it the Bill primarily concerned only the status of a very humble individual in the social scale—the well-known and much abused “village chowkeedar,”—it would be found, he thought, as their deliberations proceeded, that the object and purport of any measure connected with the appointment and maintenance of a village police had an important bearing not only upon the well-being of the individual himself, but also upon the welfare and proper administration of the country at large. The truth of such a statement would be at once apparent, when it was remembered that a village watch, under one denomination or another, and under varying conditions as to its constitution and character, was found to be in existence in the present day in every District in the Lower Provinces.

He would not attempt to detain the Council, on the present occasion at least, with any lengthened review of the early history of the institution, partly because there were elements of controversy in the consideration of the older laws and prescription on which the rights of the landholders, the village communities, and the Government, were respectively based as regards the organization of the village police; and it was desirable at least that at this stage of the enquiry all questions of controversy should be avoided. It was also the case that for any right comprehension of the relative positions of the several parties concerned, a much longer disquisition would be necessary than could possibly be attempted on the present occasion, and the necessity for such a course was less important because the whole subject had been fully discussed in all its details in the recent report of Mr. D. J. McNeile. However much we might differ from the conclusions at which that gentlemen had arrived for the effective organization of the village watch, this much was certain that he had embodied in that report the results of a very long and careful research into the entire subject, and to the pages of his book, he (Mr. Thompson) would refer those who would desire to be informed of the origin and constitution of the village police in the different parts of the country under this Government.

He would omit, then, all reference in his present address to the status of the village policeman anterior to or at the time of the decennial settlement. It was possible that in the course of their deliberations questions might arise which would entail a reference to the earlier Regulations; but, as far as concerned the measure now before the Council, attention was rather required to existing facts than to those which existed long ago; and he could assure the Council that there was ample material in the long discussions and reports which had arisen within the last quarter of a century to occupy their full attention in legislating upon this subject.

It was necessary that the Council should bear in mind that in dealing with this question they had to deal with it in a double aspect. It would be in their knowledge that the two great divisions which came before them were—the subject as it had reference to the village police to whom lands had been assigned as a remuneration of their service, and the village police who, as they now existed in a great portion of the Lower Provinces, were nominally in receipt of money payments. Whatever might have been the origin of these different systems, the fact was a patent one, and, he must say, added to the complications and difficulties which surrounded the subject. It should also be remembered that those two great divisions were sub-divided into numerous others; and that while the land-holding police (if he might so term them) contained wealthy occupiers of extensive estates (though to these there need be little reference in the present measure), they also comprised the holders of petty tenures down to even three or four beegahs; and as regards the money-receiving police, which prevailed under numerous denominations in the Eastern Districts of Bengal especially, the village watchman was a dependant for the payment of his services upon the good-will simply of the community in which he lived.

In both these systems of rural police it was the opinion, he might safely say, of all who had either considered the subject from writings, or who had been brought into contact with it practically in the executive administration of the country, that anomalies and irregularities and defects existed which demanded the interference of the Legislature with a view to revision and reform. The object of his present address was to solicit their co-operation in placing this institution upon a satisfactory footing.

He would detain them but a short time to explain the grounds on which the necessity for interference rested.

If regard be had, first, to the village police whose remuneration was secured by assignments of land, it might be said generally of them (leaving aside for the present the controverted points which had at times arisen as to the relative rights of zemindars and the Government as to the nomination and services of such police officers) that wherever they existed, in some form or another they had by long use, if not by positive enactment, owed a divided allegiance between the landholder and the executive authorities under Government. Now the evils which arose from this service of two masters were found to be so serious that any measure which would remove them would be of very great value. In the first place it would put a stop to the frequent unsatisfactory contentions which had been too prevalent for many years, leading to expense and litigation even up to the highest tribunal in England. It would put an end to the anomalous position of the village police officer, who, distracted now by a double service, was in the habit of playing off one master against another to the discontent of both, and, what was worse, to the almost entire neglect of the duties for which he held his lands. If the Council regarded but cursorily what the present calls upon him were, the difficulties of his position would at once be recognized. If it be (as some held) that such a chowkeydar holding lands in a zemindar's estate was, by the nature of his tenure, in the first instance bound to the service of the zemindar; that during the day he could be employed in the collection of rents, in the summoning of refractory tenants, in attendance upon journeys, and duties of this kind; he must be, he (Mr. Thompson) conceived, a mortal of different constitution to ourselves if he could during the night discharge properly the functions which devolved upon him as the guardian and protector of the lives and property of the community to which he belonged. It scarcely needed the experience of many years, and the reports of many officials to convince us that the double duty could not be performed. The very labors which were necessary in the tillage of his land to give him subsistence, incapacitated him for the toils and watchfulness of the night. The result had been an entire failure of the duties of a public character appertaining to his position which might just as well have been secured by the abolition of the office itself.

In places where the opposite principle was in force, and the chowkeydar had to look for his pay to the villagers whom he served, the same result of the utter inefficiency of the system was ascertained, though admittedly from different causes. The theory was this, that the chowkeydar in these villages should be nominated to his post by the headman of the village, sometimes with and sometimes without the consent of the zemindar, and subject, he (Mr. Thompson) believed, to the confirmation of the Magistrate of the District. On his appointment the chowkeydar received a list of the villagers and the amount which each resident was bound to contribute to his maintenance. The assessment, he (Mr. Thompson) believed, was most inequitable and unfair. The zemindar paid nothing, the richer people paid little, and the poorer classes, if they gave anything, contributed in the form of grain and clothing. The wages were nominally fixed from Rs. 2-8 to Rs. 4, and the consequence might be imagined that from every District in Bengal the complaint arose not only that the pay was inadequate, nor only that they were always in arrears, but what was the special thorn in every Magistrate's side, that there was absolutely no provision in any law by which he could interpose his authority for the realization of the arrears due from defaulters.

It must be clear that if there was any particle of truth in the above description, the entire system condemned itself; and that under such a system it was impossible to look for an efficient police organization among village communities. Endeavours had from time to time been made, both by administrative arrangements and applications to the Legislature, to secure a reform of the rules in force for the appointment and employment of the rural police; but while the executive officers were powerless in the absence of any legal authority for their action, all attempts hitherto made to legislate on the subject had failed. He (Mr. Thompson) found that about eleven years ago a Bill, with the object of reforming the rural police, was introduced into the Legislative Council as then constituted by Mr. Ricketts, a gentleman who had enjoyed a very large experience of the provinces under the Bengal Government, and who had always evinced the keenest interest in the wants and necessities of the people of Bengal. His Bill, though referred to a Select Committee for report, had not proceeded further, but still from the discussions which then took place a knowledge was gained of the opinions which were then prevalent of the village police in this country. The view of Mr. Ricketts of the police, as it appeared to him in 1859, was that it was an intolerable state of things for which the most stringent remedies were necessary.

He (Mr. Thompson) found, going back a few years further, an extract from a minute of Mr. Bethune, a member of the Governor General's Council, in which he spoke of the mofussil police as in a most disgraceful state, and recorded his conviction that "in proportion to the numbers more chowkeedars were found guilty of heinous crimes than persons not chowkeedars were of all offences of every kind,—in a word that by far the worst robbers in the country were the chowkeedars themselves, and that they were a curse to the country."

The same general views were confirmed by Sir John Peter Grant when Lieutenant-Governor of these Provinces, when he said that it had always appeared to him that "the local police was the worst feature in our administration. It was neither the police of the people nor the police of the Government. It was unpopular, arbitrary, and vexatious, at the same time that it was undisciplined, incapable, and ill-directed."

But perhaps the strongest testimony to the worthlessness of such an institution was what was found recorded in one of the reports of a Commission appointed several years ago when, in considering the measures which should be adopted for the improvement of the police, it seriously recommended that an order throughout the country to apprehend and confine the chowkeedars would do more to put a stop to robbery than any other measure. Well, there might be no hesitation in saying that what was pronounced by competent authorities so essentially bad in 1859 had not been improved of itself by the non-interference of Government during the last ten years. He had not extracted sensationally strong paragraphs to support the views which he wished to establish; for he might appeal to many opinions of local officers of ability which had since been published, or he might appeal to the experience of the Native Members before him, whether the present system of village police was not as bad as it could be. Within recent years Mr. Hobhouse, in reporting on the subject, had exposed the demoralised character of the rural police in the following words:—

"The next point to be considered is the organization of the force itself. As at present constituted it is radically bad. The village policeman is appointed by the zemindar and the village community, or by one of these two. He is also maintained by them either by lands, or by wages in money or kind; he is also their servant. He is a fellow villager of the villagers, and almost universally he is a tenant of the zemindar. His wages, if he is paid in money or in kind, are always ludicrously insufficient, are generally in arrears, and are seldom paid regularly. His lands, if they are sufficient for his maintenance, are also of that extent that they occupy the whole of his time to cultivate. When they are insufficient—and they usually are so—and when his wages are insufficient—and they always are so—what is the village watchman to do? He must live, and he usually not only lives but thrives, and he thrives not unfrequently by being the leader and most usually by being the participator in, or the conniver at, the offences it is his duty to prevent or discover and disclose."

Great efforts had been made in recent years, and with success, to improve the position of the regular constabulary and police, which now under a special organization and department is doing good service. He (Mr. Thompson) was convinced, however, that whatever it might be in a position to achieve now in the way of an efficient performance of police requirements, its value and usefulness would be immeasurably greater if it could be supplemented in its lowest ranks by a well-ordered and well-established village watch. In the hope of securing such an object with the supersession of the present imperfect systems, he wished to introduce the present Bill, and if leave was granted he would, on an early occasion, in presenting the Bill for the consideration of the Council, state what in his opinion should be the principle on which legislation should be based.

With these remarks he begged to move for leave to bring in the Bill.

The motion was agreed to.

COURT OF WARDS.

MR. MONEY moved that the Report of the Select Committee on the Bill to consolidate and amend the law relating to the Court of Wards within the Provinces under the control of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal be taken into consideration in order to the settlement of the clauses of the Bill, and that the clauses be considered for settlement in the form recommended by the Select Committee. In doing so, he said that on one or two previous occasions in which he had had the honor to address the Council, he had entered at some length into the subject: it was quite unnecessary therefore that he should go over the same ground again, more especially as, since the Select Committee had amended the Bill, their report had

been printed and circulated. He need only mention that after the Bill, as introduced, had been published, the Board of Revenue had called on all Commissioners of Divisions and Collectors of Districts to give them the advantage of their experience on the various matters affecting the Court of Wards and the management of wards' estate, regarding which the Bill proposed to legislate. Accordingly, a number of Commissioners, Collectors, and others had submitted their opinions, and from those communications he had caused to be prepared an abstract for submission to the Committee. Amongst the Commissioners who rendered most assistance by their valuable opinions were Colonel Dalton, Commissioner of Chota Nagpore, Lord Ulick Browne, Commissioner of Chittagong, Mr. Lance, Commissioner of Rajshahye, and Mr. Cockerell, Commissioner of the Presidency Division; whilst amongst the various Collectors he would mention particularly Messrs. Heely, Morgan, Westland, Geddes, Reynolds, McNeile, Smith, and O'Kinealy.

The motion was agreed to.

At the request of the PRESIDENT, the Assistant Secretary read to the Council a communication, received late on the previous day from the Honorary Secretary to the British Indian Association, offering certain remarks and suggestions on some of the provisions of the Bill.

The letter having been read—

THE PRESIDENT said that the regular way of dealing with communications such as that which had just been read was for the Secretary to cause the communication to be printed and sent to Honorable Members; but as the present communication commented on some parts of a Bill to be taken into consideration to-day, he had directed the communication to be read to the Council.

The consideration of Section 1 was postponed.

Section 2 was agreed to after some verbal amendments.

Sections 3 to 7 were agreed to.

Section 8 was agreed to with a verbal amendment.

Sections 9 to 13 were agreed to.

Section 14 was as follows:—

"When the estate or lands of a ward are situate within two or more Divisions, the Board of Revenue shall determine the Court which shall have the charge of the person of the ward."

On the motion of MR. MONEY, the following words were added to the section:—

"And such Court shall appoint some one of the Collectors within its own Division to exercise the duties of the Court with respect to the person of the ward."

Section 15 was agreed to.

Section 16 was passed with a verbal amendment.

Section 17 provided that the orders and proceedings of a Collector should be subject to the revision of the Court of Wards, and that an appeal from any such order or proceeding might be preferred within one month.

MR. MONEY said the object of the Bill was to leave the law as it stood at present. Under Regulation I. of 1829 the powers and authorities of the Board of Revenue as the Court of Wards were transferred to the Commissioners of Revenue, a general control and supervision being reserved to the Board; while the present Bill provided that in every matter the proceedings of the Court of Wards should be subject entirely to the control and supervision of the Board. It was thought that it would be advisable to give an appeal of right from the Collector to the Commissioner, but that it would not be advisable to give a right of appeal from all the orders of the Commissioner to the Board of Revenue; that, however, would not prevent any person from petitioning the Board to revise an order of a Commissioner; but he (Mr. Money) thought it would be better to leave a discretion to the Board to receive an appeal or not, which would in fact be leaving the law as it stood at present.

The section was then passed with an addition, made on the motion of MR. MONEY, empowering the Court of Wards, if it should think fit, to revise, modify, or reverse any order or proceeding of a Collector, after the lapse of the period of one month, "whether any appeal shall have been preferred or not."

Section 18 was agreed to with a verbal amendment.

Section 19 provided that on the death of a proprietor whose heirs were disqualified, the Collector should take order for the safety and preservation of any moveable property of the deceased proprietor, and of all deeds, documents, and papers relating to any portion of the property of such proprietor.

MR. WYMAN thought that "seals" should be included amongst the things that the Collector should take possession of. In Section 16 "seals" were specified as one of the things that a Collector should take charge of on assuming charge of an estate; and it appeared equally important that on the death of a proprietor whose heirs were disqualified, the Collector should take charge of "seals" as well as "deeds, documents, and papers." The insertion of the word was, moreover, necessary to secure the consistency of the two sections, which were similar in their nature. He would therefore move the insertion of the word "seals" before the word "deeds" in the ninth line of the section.

THE ADVOCATE-GENERAL said that in the section under consideration, the insertion of the word "seals" was unnecessary, as seals would be included in the term "moveable property."

MR. MONEY said that he agreed with the learned Advocate-General that seals were included in moveable property; but he thought, moreover, that Section 16 and Section 19 were quite different in their character, and were intended to meet different sets of circumstances. He was therefore opposed to the amendment.

After some further conversation, the motion was by leave withdrawn, and the section was then agreed to.

Section 22 provided for the enquiries to be made in the case of female proprietors.

THE ADVOCATE-GENERAL said he thought that the language of this section was not consistent with the provision of a previous section of the Bill, which referred to "females not deemed by the Court competent to the management of their own estates"; but this section spoke of a proprietor being reported to be disqualified "solely from being a female." If a Collector reported that a proprietor was disqualified solely from being a female, he would be reporting a disqualification not contemplated by the Act. The 2nd section of the Bill applied to females not deemed competent to the management of their own estates. It was not the mere sex, but sex coupled with a disqualification, that would entitle the Court to enquire into the competency or otherwise of a female proprietor. He would, therefore, move that in the beginning of the section, instead of the words "If a proprietor shall be reported to be disqualified solely from being a female," the following words be substituted: "If any female proprietor shall be reported to be disqualified from incompetency to manage her estate."

The motion was carried, and the section as amended agreed to.

Section 21 was agreed to with a verbal amendment.

Section 23 provided for the production of a minor before the Collector and the making of an order for his temporary custody. The section was agreed to with the addition of the following words inserted on the motion of Mr. Money:—

"In the event of disobedience to his orders under this section, the Court may impose a fine not exceeding Rs. 500, and a daily fine not exceeding Rs. 200 until the production of the person of the minor."

Sections 23, 24, and 25 related to enquiries in the case of idiots, lunatics, and other proprietors deemed disqualified on the ground of some natural or acquired defect or infirmity.

THE ADVOCATE-GENERAL said that these sections had reference only to the case of disqualified proprietors residing in the mofussil; but a disqualified proprietor might reside within and be subject to the original jurisdiction of the High Court, whilst his estate might be in the mofussil and subject to the jurisdiction of the Court of Wards. He was not prepared with any specific amendment of these sections; but as regards Section 23, the modification would be simple, because in the Act of 1858 there was a section which provided that the superintendence of the Court of Wards should extend to the proprietors of land situate beyond the jurisdiction of the Court; but there would be some difficulty as regards proprietors of estates who were disqualified by some natural or acquired infirmity and who resided within the jurisdiction of the High Court, because this Council could not give new jurisdiction to the High Court. Under Act XXXV. of 1858, the only ground of enquiry would be idiocy or lunacy; therefore under the 24th Section of the present Bill it would be necessary to provide some other mode of ascertaining the disqualification therein referred to.

The consideration of Sections 23, 24, and 25 was then postponed.

Section 26 provided, amongst other things, that if a testamentary guardian had been appointed, the Collector should report the fact to the Court of Wards, and state in his report whether there were any and what objections to the appointment of such testamentary guardian to be the manager and guardian of the ward.

BABOO JOTEENDRO MOHUN TAGORE said that he thought there was no necessity for instituting an enquiry as to the fitness or otherwise of the testamentary guardian. The guardian would only have charge of the ward's person, and surely the testator was best able to judge who was the fittest man to undertake that duty. If such enquiries were allowed, it would simply be permitting interference with the wishes of the testator. If, however, after a fair trial, the testamentary guardian were found incompetent, he might be removed, and the Court might appoint a guardian in his stead. For these reasons he (Baboo Joteendro Mohun Tagore) would suggest that the concluding portion of the section should stand thus:—

"If a testamentary guardian has been appointed, the Collector shall also notice the same in his report, and the appointment of such guardian shall be confirmed by the Court, reserving the power of appointing a new guardian if such testamentary guardian be found incompetent after a fair trial."

MR. MONEY said he would oppose any such amendment. The duty of the Collector did not begin after the appointment of a guardian: the appointment of the guardian was a trust reposed in the Collector, who must enquire into the fitness of the guardian to be appointed. The fact of a guardian being the testamentary guardian would not necessarily make him a fit person to act as guardian. Regulation VII. of 1799, Section 26, had enacted as follows:—

"The provisions in the preceding section are meant to include the estates of disqualified land holders under the management of Serberakars, appointed by the Court of Wards under Section VIII. of Regulation X., 1793; which estates being exonerated from responsibility for the revenue assessed upon them beyond what may be realized from the rents collected by the officers entrusted with the management of them, and experience, having shown that the managers elected under the above section (which directs a preference to the legal heirs or other near relations of the proprietors, or in the event of there being no heirs or relations of this description to creditable servants of the family, and allows female proprietors, not minors, or otherwise disqualified, to recommend managers for their estates) are in general wholly disregarding of the public interest in the realization of the revenue assessed upon the estates committed to them, the above section is hereby rescinded, and the managers of the estates of disqualified land-holders, which may be exonerated from responsibility for the

public revenue assessed upon them, are to be hereafter chosen by the Collectors and approved by the Board of Revenue without any regard to their connection with the proprietors, or to the will of the disqualified proprietors themselves in the election of such managers, who are to be considered in every respect the officers of Government acting under the Collectors; and the latter will be held responsible for the nomination of proper persons both as to character and capacity for the trust."

He (MR. MONEY) thought the same arguments held good with regard to guardians as to managers. By the section he had just read, the original law had been changed as regards the latter; and for reasons of the same nature as those which dictated such change, he would leave to the Collector the duty and responsibility of selecting a guardian, even where a testamentary guardian had been appointed.

THE ADVOCATE-GENERAL said that he should support the amendment because he thought that the reference to the former law was beside the question. The objection to the state of the law mentioned in the Regulation was based on a very intelligible principle, that the mere fact of relationship was no security whatever that the interests of the ward would be taken care of; and therefore it was properly enacted that in selecting a manager, the choice was not to be restricted to the selection of a relative or servant. But the principle of the appointment of a testamentary guardian was different. There the person most interested, by deliberate act of his own, not liking the care of his minor to be dealt with by any mere degree of relationship, but making a selection of his own, and therefore presumably the selection of a fit person, appointed that person by his will to be the guardian of his minor. And the amendment before the Council did no more than this; it did not say that that appointment was to be binding for good, but that presumably the person best qualified to form a judgment should not be interfered with without good and just cause. Should the guardian so appointed fail in his duty, it should be competent to the Collector to remove the person appointed by the deceased proprietor.

MR. MONEY said that he would ask the Council to consider a case which had occurred. The minor proprietor of the Durbunga Estates would probably go to the Wards' Institution of Benares for his education, and possibly his tutor, who had great influence over the minor, would also accompany him. If so, it was probable, considering the efficiency of the tutor with regard to the management of the ward, that he would be held to be the best person to be appointed guardian in lieu of the English manager of the estate, who hitherto had been also the guardian of the minor. Now he (Mr. Money) thought that in a case like this it would be very much better to leave it to the discretion of the Collector to appoint the guardian most suited to the circumstances of the case. In an instance like this, the Collector would not be able to annul the appointment of the testamentary guardian, although it might be for the ward's benefit that his tutor and guardian should be one. In fact, a Collector would find it difficult to remove a testamentary guardian, unless on the clearest proof of incapacity. It was very desirable that a guardian should be a person able to exercise influence over the minor, yet under the proposed amendment it would be impossible to appoint such a person to be guardian, where a testamentary guardian had been appointed.

THE HON'BLE ASHLEY EDEN said that he was in favor of the amendment for the reasons given by the learned Advocate-General. He thought that the proprietor of an estate who appointed a guardian for his heir was the person most likely to be acquainted with the qualifications of the person whom he appointed guardian by his will, and it must be assumed that no dying man would entrust his child to a person of whose fitness he was not satisfied; it seemed absurd to say that after he had carefully and on good grounds made his own selection as to the person whom he wished to confide his son to, the Collector should come in and after a summary enquiry appoint some one else. He (Mr. Eden) saw no difficulty in the case just cited, because he thought that if the guardian appointed under the will would not take the trouble to accompany the ward to any place where it was necessary for him to go for the purpose of education, he would by his own act become disqualified, and that would be a sufficient reason for removing him from the charge of the ward. He virtually released himself from the position in which he had been placed by the testator.

THE PRESIDENT said that he thought the consideration of the section should stand over. He was rather startled at the proposition of the Hon'ble Mover of the Bill that the Court of Wards could absolutely take away all right from the father of making any arrangement for the education and care of his son after his death. Another reason why he thought a postponement necessary was that the language of the amendment was rather vague, and he had doubts how the arrangement proposed would work in practice.

The further consideration of the section was postponed.

Section 27 provided that the Court should allow for the support of each ward and of his or her family such monthly sum as might seem fit with regard to the rank and circumstances of the parties and their indebtedness or freedom from debt.

MR. WYMAN said that he spoke with much diffidence on a question of this sort, as he had not had sufficient opportunity of making himself fully acquainted with the Bill before the Council; but it struck him that the removal of the restriction which existed in the present law as to the expenditure for a ward's support, and the policy of substituting in its stead the mere discretion of the Court, was hardly an improvement. Even supposing that the limit of ten per cent. of the revenue realized by Government from the estate was insufficient, it did not follow that it would not have been better to have extended the limit by increasing the proportion to 15 or 20 per cent. He thought that in this matter it was wise to put some restriction on the amount that might be expended. There must, under the former arrangement,

be a certain accumulation of funds in every estate, and if no limit was fixed by law, the expenditure on account of a Ward's support might be lawless: he thought, therefore, that it would be as well to put some restriction on the power of the Court in this matter, and he hoped that some Honorable Member more acquainted with the habits and feelings of the people might be able to propose a definite amendment on the point.

MR. MONEY said that there seemed no reason why there should be any limit placed on the discretion of the Court of Wards in fixing the allowance for the support of the ward and his family: the limit in each case should be fixed according to its peculiar circumstances. The limit, according to Regulation X. of 1793, Section 12, was ten per cent. on the revenue assessed on the ward's estate; but there was not the slightest doubt that the revenue derived from an estate bore no proportion to its profits, and therefore the application of that rule had a very unequal effect. He (MR. MONEY) was of opinion that no limit, whether it was 10, 15, or 20 per cent., would meet every case; it was better, therefore, to leave the matter to the discretion of the Court of Wards and the Board of Revenue: moreover, he saw no reason why the Court of Wards and the Board of Revenue should not have a discretion in this matter as well as in others of more importance in which a discretion was reserved.

THE ADVOCATE-GENERAL said that in supporting the section, as it stood, he might mention that in the High Court on its original side the allowance to minors was fixed on the same general principle as was laid down in the section under consideration, without reference to any proportion of the income, the allowance varying with the circumstances of each case.

THE PRESIDENT said that the Assistant Secretary had pointed out that Section 17 of Regulation X. of 1793 did allow a discretion.

The section was then agreed to.

Sections 28 and 29 were agreed to.

The consideration of Section 30 was postponed.

Sections 31 to 34 were agreed to.

Section 35 was agreed to with a verbal amendment.

The consideration of Section 36 was postponed.

Section 38 empowered the Court by which any manager or guardian was appointed to remove him, and to order him to make over to such person as the Court might direct, any property in his hands and to account for all monies received and disbursed by him; and provided that such orders might be enforced by the imprisonment in the civil jail of the person disobeying the order, and by attachment of his property until the accounts or property shall have been delivered up: and the Collector was vested with the same power as regards persons appointed by him.

BABOO JOTEENDRO MOHUN TAGORE said, he thought that when the liberty of a person was at stake he ought to have the right of an appeal from the order passed on him. By the next section a fine was imposed for the non-delivery of accounts or property, and the imprisonment here provided would be in addition to the fine. He therefore thought that where an order for imprisonment was made, an appeal from such order should be allowed. He would move the addition to the section of the following words:—

"Provided that every order for imprisonment by the Court shall be subject to appeal to the Board of Revenue."

MR. MONEY said that he would not object to allowing an appeal in cases where an order for imprisonment was passed. Section 17 provided that an appeal might be preferred to the Court of Wards from every order or proceeding of a Collector; therefore any person imprisoned by the Collector under Section 38 would have the right to appeal from that order. But as the Bill stood it would be in the discretion of the Board of Revenue to hear an appeal from any order or proceeding of the Court of Wards; he had no objection, however, to give an appeal as of right in cases where the order of the Court was for imprisonment.

The motion was carried, and the section was agreed to after a verbal amendment.

Sections 39 to 43 were agreed to.

Section 44 gave power to the Court to invest the surplus receipts of a ward's estate, and specified in what investments they might be applied.

BABOO JOTEENDRO MOHUN TAGORE moved the omission from the section of the words "or in loans upon mortgages." He thought that it would be unsafe to permit the manager to invest the surplus proceeds of a ward's estates in making loans upon mortgages: such speculations were vague and open to fraud, and he would instance the losses which it was said the Land Mortgage Bank, even under careful supervision, had sustained. Although it was provided in the Bill "that the investment of the surplus in loans on mortgages should be made by the direction and with the privity of the Court," and when "approved of by the Board of Revenue," he thought that such transactions required much more care and attention for their scrutiny than the Commissioner or the Board of Revenue could bestow on them, and that virtually they must be left in the hands of the manager, who, however, would be practically irresponsible for acts done by him *bona fide* and in good faith; he would therefore suggest that a manager should not be permitted to make investments in loans on mortgages.

MR. MONEY said that under Section 18 of Regulation X. of 1793 if a Collector should think it unnecessary or unadvisable to appropriate the surplus receipts to the improvement of the lands already under the manager's charge, he should cause the same to be applied by the manager to the purchase of other landed property, or to interest loans on mortgages, or to the purchase of Government paper securities, as circumstances might make it preferable. He (Mr. MONEY) could see no special object in limiting the power of the Court of Wards in favor of a restriction of this kind. He thought that such a restriction would be prejudicial to, rather than to the advantage of the interests of the ward; and as he was aware of no instance of abuse of such power, he was of opinion that the clause should stand as it was in the Bill, which had been the law for the last eighty years.

MR. WYMAN said that the rules which held good for the management of one's own property would be the best also to apply to the care of wards' estates. Besides, it was well known that good interest meant bad security. Managers might not always have sufficient time to scrutinize the conditions and genuineness of the mortgage, and sometimes they might be indirectly interested in the transaction. He therefore thought that this class of investments should not be sanctioned.

THE ADVOCATE-GENERAL said that he thought there was another reason why the amendment should be made. The management and superintendence of the Court of Wards was only temporary, and ceased when the ward became free from any disqualification. So long as the surplus was invested in Government securities or in stock or in shares, the money could be realized at once if the owner was so disposed; but if any portion of the surplus income had been laid out in mortgages, he would find himself involved in an investment which was for a certain time unrealizable—a difficulty which it was not desirable to cast on the owner. It was quite a different thing to purchase lands, Government securities or stock, and shares, which could be realized at any time; but quite different considerations would apply to the investment of money in a mortgage, which was never immediately realizable.

MR. MONEY said that he thought no sufficient reason had been shown why surplus funds should not be invested in loans on mortgages, and he could conceive some circumstances, as where the mortgaged property adjoined the ward's, in which it would be very desirable and advisable that a loan on mortgage should be made by the ward's estate instead of by outsiders. He thought, however, that in a matter of this kind, entirely affecting the interests of the landholders, which were so fully represented by the Native Members of the Council, their wishes should be respected; and he would therefore withdraw his objection to the amendment.

The motion was carried, and the section was agreed to after some verbal amendments.

The further consideration of the Bill was postponed.

CALCUTTA WATER-SUPPLY.

THE PRESIDENT said that he would mention to the Council that at the next sitting leave would be asked to bring in a Bill, and to suspend some of the Rules of the Council for the conduct of business so as to advance the Bill one or two stages, to empower the Justices of the Peace for Calcutta to levy a rate on the town for the payment of the interest due on the loan from Government for the construction of the water-works, and also for the maintenance of the necessary establishment to carry on the water-works.

The Council was adjourned to Saturday, the 29th instant.

Report on the cultivation of Cinchona at Darjeeling for the month of December 1869.

From C. B. CLARKE, ESQ., M.A., Officiating Superintendent, Botanic Garden, and in charge of Cinchona Cultivation in Bengal, to the Secretary to the Government of Bengal,—
(No. 163, dated Botanic Garden, Calcutta, the 6th January 1870.)

I BEG leave to submit the report of the Government cinchona cultivation in Sikkim for the month of December 1869.

Report on the Cultivation of Cinchona at Darjeeling for the month of December 1869.

THE weather during the month has been very dry. Consequently a small portion only of the *C. Succirubra* plants in nursery beds now ready for removal to the permanent plantations have been so removed. The coolies have been employed in hoeing, and to some extent in brickmaking and roadmaking. Though this month is a rest month for vegetation at Rungbee, it will be remarked that *C. Succirubra* still keeps moving, while *C. Calisaya* has stopped. *C. Succirubra* is doubtless the hardier plant of the two, but the best varieties of *C. Calisaya* will grow as many inches in the year as will *C. Succirubra*.

There was supplied to Dr. Jameson, superintendent of the Saharunpore Botanic Garden, $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. of *C. Succirubra* seed and $\frac{1}{4}$ oz. of *C. Officinalis* seed.

There was received, by the kindness of Dr. Van Gorkom, from the Java Government cinchona cultivation, a small quantity of seed of *C. Lancifolia*.

Table showing the temperature of the month at the different plantations.

PLANTATIONS.	Mean maximum.	Mean minimum.	Mean temperature.	REMARKS.
2nd plantation	Thermometer out of order.	43.03	.	.
4th ditto	Ditto	48.4	.	.
Rishap ditto	7.36	50.0	61.8	.

Table showing the maximum and minimum growth during the month of December 1869.

NAMES OF SPECIES.	TEESTA.		BISHAP.	RUNGBEE.	
	First plantation.	Second plantation.	Third plantation.	Fourth plantation.	Fifth plantation.
<i>C. Succirubra</i>	Not measured.	Not measured.	1 to 4 ins.	1 to 5 ins.	1 to 8 ins.
<i>C. Micrantha</i>	Ditto	Ditto	2 to 4 ins.	1 to 3 "	1 to 3 "
<i>C. Officinalis</i>	Ditto	Ditto	Not measured.	1 to 4 "	Not measured.
<i>C. Calisaya</i>	Ditto	Ditto	1 to 2 ins.	1 to 3 "	$\frac{1}{2}$ to 2 ins.

Table showing the number and distribution of Cinchona plants in the Government plantations at Darjeeling on the 1st January 1870.

Names of species of Cinchona.	Number in permanent plantation.	Number of stock plants for propagation.	Number of seedlings or rooted cuttings in nursery beds for permanent plantations.	Number of rooted plants in cutting beds.	Number of cuttings made during the month.	Total number of plants, cuttings, and seedlings.
<i>C. Succirubra</i>	10,02,100	20,000	2,19,115	None.	None.	12,41,215
<i>C. Calisaya</i>	2,330	10,000	7,398	22,074	"	41,792
<i>C. Micrantha</i>	29,667	None.	None.	None.	"	29,667
<i>C. Officinalis</i> , and varieties	4,06,899	10,000	2,06,452	3,07,853	"	9,31,204
<i>C. Pseudiana</i>	5,092	None.	None.	None.	"	5,092
Total	14,46,088	40,000	4,32,955	3,29,927	None.	22,48,970

RUNGBEE, } J. GAMMIE,
The 1st January 1870. } Head Gardener in charge, Cinchona plantations, Darjeeling.

TABLE showing the growth of Cinchonas in the Darjeeling plantations during the month of December 1869.

NAME.	1st PLANTATION (YEESTA), ALTITUDE 900 FEET.					2nd PLANTATION (YEESTA), ALTITUDE 450 FEET.					3rd PLANTATION (RISHAP), ALTITUDE 2,000 FEET.					4th PLANTATION (RUNDREE), ALTITUDE 3,332 FEET.					5th PLANTATION (RUNDREE), ALTITUDE 2,558 FEET.					
	Date of planting.	Height in inches on 18	Height on 1st.	Height on 1st.	Growth during	Date of planting.	Height in inches on 18	Height on 1st.	Height on 1st.	Growth during	Date of planting.	Height in inches on 1st January 1868.	Height on 1st December.	Height on 1st.	Growth during	Date of planting.	Height in inches when planted.	Height on 1st December.	Height on 1st.	Growth during	Date of planting.	Height in inches when planted.	Height on 1st December.	Height on 1st.	Growth during	
C. Succirubra	1	...	...	...	...	29th March 1867.	29	123	123	123	1	29th July 1864.	9	148	150	2	15th Oct. 1864.	9	284	167	2	15th Oct. 1864.	9	284	167	2
Ditto	2	...	...	...	...	29th March 1867.	30	133	133	133	1	29th July 1864.	10	170	173	3	15th Oct. 1864.	10	170	173	3	15th Oct. 1864.	10	170	173	3
Ditto	3	...	...	...	...	29th March 1867.	31	131	124	124	3	29th July 1864.	7	149	154	6	29th July 1864.	7	182	186	4	29th July 1864.	7	182	186	4
Ditto	4	...	...	...	...	29th March 1867.	32	139	141	141	2	29th July 1864.	10	145	147	2	29th July 1864.	10	145	147	2	29th July 1864.	10	145	147	2
Ditto	5	...	...	...	...	29th March 1867.	34	151	154	154	3	29th July 1864.	4	129	123	3	29th July 1864.	4	189	191	2	29th July 1864.	4	189	191	2
Ditto	6	...	...	...	...	29th March 1867.	30	149	152	152	3	29th July 1864.	4	178	182	4	29th July 1864.	4	151	151	...	29th July 1864.	4	151	151	...
Ditto	7	...	...	...	...	29th March 1867.	27	98	100	100	2	29th July 1864.	3	168	161	3	29th July 1864.	3	208	216	8	29th July 1864.	3	208	216	8
Ditto	8	...	...	...	...	29th March 1867.	30	143	147	147	4	29th July 1864.	2	129	129	...	29th July 1864.	2	109	171	3	29th July 1864.	2	109	171	3
Ditto	9	...	...	...	...	29th March 1867.	29	131	132	132	1	29th July 1864.	3	125	127	2	29th July 1864.	3	191	192	3	29th July 1864.	3	191	192	3
Ditto	10	...	...	...	...	29th March 1867.	25	112	112	112	...	29th July 1864.	3	146	147	1	29th July 1864.	3	180	181	1	29th July 1864.	3	180	181	1
C. Microcarpa	1	...	...	...	...	16th March 1867.	17	122	126	126	4	15th Oct. 1864.	9	157	159	2	29th July 1864.	9	98	99	1	29th July 1864.	9	98	99	1
Ditto	2	...	...	...	...	16th March 1867.	19	132	134	134	2	15th Oct. 1864.	6	122	123	1	29th July 1864.	6	103	103	...	29th July 1864.	6	103	103	...
Ditto	3	...	...	...	...	16th March 1867.	44	136	139	139	3	29th July 1864.	3	119	120	1	15th Oct. 1864.	3	111	114	3	15th Oct. 1864.	3	111	114	3
Ditto	4	...	...	...	...	16th March 1867.	46	145	147	147	...	29th July 1864.	2	119	120	1	29th July 1864.	2	143	143	...	29th July 1864.	2	143	143	...
Ditto	5	...	...	...	...	16th March 1867.	56	152	156	156	...	16th Oct. 1864.	3	116	119	3	15th Oct. 1864.	3	131	131	...	15th Oct. 1864.	3	131	131	...
C. Officinalis	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ditto	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ditto	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ditto	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ditto	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ditto	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ditto	7	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ditto	8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ditto	9	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ditto	10	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
C. Calisaya...	1	...	...	...	...	29th June 1867.	25	130	131	131	1	29th June 1867.	15	81	81	...	1st Jan. 1868.	2	78	78	...	1st Jan. 1868.	2	78	78	...
Ditto	2	...	...	...	...	29th June 1867.	16	130	132	132	2	29th June 1867.	15	71	74	3	1st Jan. 1868.	3	79	80	1	1st Jan. 1868.	3	79	80	1
Ditto	3	...	...	...	...	29th June 1867.	15	132	132	132	...	29th June 1867.	12	75	75	...	1st Jan. 1868.	3	81	81	...	1st Jan. 1868.	3	81	81	...
Ditto	4	...	...	...	...	29th June 1867.	16	122	122	122	...	29th June 1867.	10	71	71	...	1st Jan. 1868.	3	83	83	...	1st Jan. 1868.	3	83	83	...
Ditto	5	...	...	...	...	29th June 1867.	23	126	126	126	...	29th June 1867.	11	79	80	1	1st Jan. 1868.	3	74	74	...	1st Jan. 1868.	3	74	74	...
Ditto	6	...	...	...	...	29th June 1867.	24	134	135	135	1	29th June 1867.	10	89	90	1	1st Jan. 1868.	3	87	87	...	1st Jan. 1868.	3	87	87	...
Ditto	7	...	...	...	...	29th June 1867.	23	131	132	132	1	29th June 1867.	10	78	78	...	1st Jan. 1868.	3	81	81	...	1st Jan. 1868.	3	81	81	...
Ditto	8	...	...	...	...	29th June 1867.	19	127	127	127	...	29th June 1867.	15	88	88	...	1st Jan. 1868.	3	90	90	...	1st Jan. 1868.	3	90	90	...
Ditto	9	...	...	...	...	29th June 1867.	21	129	129	129	...	29th June 1867.	14	86	86	...	1st Jan. 1868.	3	96	96	...	1st Jan. 1868.	3	96	96	...
Ditto	10	...	...	...	...	29th June 1867.	21	135	135	135	...	29th June 1867.	16	87	87	1	1st Jan. 1868.	3	91	91	...	1st Jan. 1868.	3	91	91	...

• Height on 1st January 1868.

C. B. CLARKE,
*Officiating Superintendent, Botanical Gardens,
 and in charge of Cinchona cultivation in Bengal.*

Weekly Return of Traffic Receipts on Indian Railways.

EAST INDIAN RAILWAY MAIN LINE.

Approximate Return of Traffic for Week ended 16th January 1870 on 1,131 miles open.

	COACHING TRAFFIC.			MERCHANDISE AND MINERAL TRAFFIC.			Total Traffic Receipts.
	Number of Passengers.	Coaching Receipts.		Weight carried.	Receipts.		
		Rs. As. P.	£. s. d.	Mds. Srs.	Rs. As. P.	£ s. d.	£. s. d.
Total Traffic for the week	1,35,025	*3,01,456 14 0	27,633 10 11	7,08,118 0	†4,25,895 3 0	39,040 7 10	66,673 18 0
Or per mile of Railway ... ..	.....	266 8 8	24 8 8	.....	378 9 0	34 10 4	58 19 0
For previous 1 week of half-year ...	1,22,982	2,81,727 0 9	25,824 19 7	8,88,478 10	5,63,163 8 9	51,622 8 2	77,447 7 9
Total for 2 weeks	2,58,007	5,83,183 14 9	53,458 10 6	15,96,594 10	9,89,048 11 9	90,662 16 0	1,44,121 6 6
COMPARISON.							
Total for corresponding week of previous year	98,436	1,84,543 7 3	16,016 9 8	7,03,213 10	3,96,651 3 11	36,359 13 11	53,276 3 7
Per mile of Railway corresponding week of previous year ...	.....	163 2 8	14 19 2	.....	350 11 4	32 2 11	47 2 1
Total to corresponding date of previous year	2,20,763†	3,96,999 4 0	36,391 12 0	16,60,416 10	8,65,065 1 9	79,297 12 8	1,15,689 4 8

* Rs. 8,555-3-8 added, being short included in return for last week.

† Rs. 3,101-12-3 added on account of freight of locomotive coal carried on Jubbulpore line.

EAST INDIAN RAILWAY JUBBULPORE LINE.

Approximate Return of Traffic for Week ended 16th January 1870 on 223 miles open.

		Rs. As. P.	£ s. d.	Mds. Srs.	Rs. As. P.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Total Traffic for the week ...	6,610‡	39,061 6 5	3,580 12 7	45,166 20	12,908 3 6	1,181 10 0	4,772 2 7
Or per mile of Railway ...	.....	175 2 8	16 1 2	.....	58 4 7	5 6 10*	21 8 0
For previous 1 week of half-year ...	4,388‡	15,335 11 6	1,405 16 6	49,095 10	12,925 3 3	1,184 16 3	2,690 11 9
Total for 2 weeks ...	12,999	54,397 1 11	4,986 8 1	94,261 30	25,833 6 9	2,376 6 3	7,362 14 4
COMPARISON.							
Total for corresponding week of previous year ...	4,510	12,059 9 5	1,105 9 3	57,277 16	15,550 2 5	1,423 8 7	2,530 17 10
Per mile of Railway corresponding week of previous year ...	.....	54 1 3	4 19 2	.....	69 11 9	6 7 10	11 7 0
Total to corresponding date of previous year ...	10,189	28,015 1 1	2,568 1 0	1,13,846 0	33,325 13 4	3,054 17 4	5,622 18 4

EASTERN BENGAL RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic for Week ended 15th January 1870 on 113½ miles open.

		Rs. As. P.	£ s. d.	Mds. Srs.	Rs. As. P.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Total Traffic for the week ...	34,834‡	26,937 13 6	2,469 6 1	1,14,595 0	17,507 8 3	1,694 17 1	4,074 3 2
Or per mile of Railway ...	308	237 15 9	21 16 1	1,011 35	154 9 6	14 3 5	33 19 6
For previous 2 weeks of half-year ...	26,716	16,841 5 6	1,543 15 9	67,090 0	15,015 12 3	1,192 18 7	2,736 14 4
Total for 3 weeks ...	61,550‡	43,779 3 0	4,013 1 10	2,02,195 0	30,521 4 6	2,797 15 8	6,810 17 6
COMPARISON.							
Total for corresponding week of previous year ...	24,516	15,182 4 5	1,391 14 2	1,06,360 14‡	20,985 11 11‡	1,923 13 10	3,315 8 0
Per mile of Railway corresponding week of previous year ...	217	134 0 11	12 5 9	939 6	185 4 10	16 19 9	29 5 6
Total to corresponding date of previous year ...	55,829‡	35,377 15 4‡	3,242 19 7	2,13,430 30	41,205 6 3‡	3,785 8 2	7,028 7 9

CALCUTTA AND SOUTH-EASTERN STATE RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic for Week ended 15th January 1870 on 28 miles open.

		Rs. As. P.	£ s. d.	Mds. S.	Rs. As. P.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Total Traffic for the week ...	7,617‡	1,144 7 0	104 18 1	11,990 2	372 15 9	34 3 10	139 1 11
Or per mile of Railway ...	283	40 14 0	3 14 11	428 0	13 5 2	1 4 5	4 19 4
For previous 2 weeks of half-year ...	5,212‡	987 10 0	90 10 8	11,265 2	347 14 6	31 17 10	122 8 6
Total for 3 weeks ...	12,130	2,132 1 9	195 8 9	23,255 4	720 14 3	65 1 8	261 10 5
COMPARISON.							
Total for corresponding week of previous year ...	5,957	1,068 1 0	97 18 2	8,367 20	238 2 0	30 19 11	128 18 1
Per mile of Railway corresponding week of previous year ...	213	38 2 4	3 9 11	299 0	12 1 3	1 2 2	4 12 1
Total to corresponding date of previous year ...	11,794	2,419 11 7‡	221 13 1	22,678 16	981 13 3	80 16 8	392 14 9

Eastern Bengal Railway's proportion for this week has been deducted from the above.

Meteorological Telegraphic Report for the period 22nd to 28th January 1870.

STATIONS.	Date.	Hour.	Barometer reduced to 32°.	THERMOMETER.		Humidity Sat. = 100.	WIND.		Rain.	Weather initials.	CLOUDS.
				Dry.	Wet.		Direction.	Velocity.			
			Inches.	°	°				Inches.		
CALCUTTA.	22nd	10	30.052	72	67	73	W by N	...	0.03	...	CK
	16		29.924	77.5	70	67	NE	...	...	...	CK
	23rd	10	30.038	70	64	70	NW	...	0.02	...	CK
	16		29.921	75.5	64	59	NW	...	...	b	
	24th	10	30.091	65.5	56	53	N by W	...	...	b	
	16		29.950	73.5	60	41	W	...	...	b	
	25th	10	30.127	69	58	49	N	...	...	b	
	16		29.975	74	59	35	WNW	...	...	b	
SAGOR ISLAND.	23rd	10	30.098	67.5	58	52	N by W	...	...	...	J. CS
	16		29.963	75.5	61	38	WNW	...	...	...	C
	27th	10	30.106	69.4	60	54	WNW	...	...	b	
	16		29.961	75.5	61	38	WSW	...	...	b	
	28th	10	30.098	67.4	58.5	55	SW	...	...	b	C
	16		29.969	78	62	35	WNW	...	...	...	C
	22nd	10	30.069	75	70	76	E	1	...	o m	K
	16		29.932	77	72	77	NW	1	...	o m	KS
CHITTAGONG.	23rd	10	30.040	73	65	61	NNE	3	...	b m	K
	16		29.934	77	65	49	NNE	3	...	b	C
	24th	10	30.090	70	57	40	ENE	2	...	b m	
	16		29.975	76	62	41	NNE	1	...	b m	
	25th	10	30.127	69	57	43	NNE	2	...	b m	
	16		29.986	77	62	38	NE	1	...	b	C
	26th	10	30.106	71	60	49	NE	1	...	b	C
	16		29.978	77	66	53	N	1	...	b	C
MADRAS.	27th	10	30.104	71	63	61	N	1	...	b m	C
	16		29.963	78	67	53	W	1	...	b	
	28th	10	30.105	72	63	68	NNE	2	...	b	C
	16		29.978	80	62	30	ENE	2	...	b	C
CUTTACK.	22nd	10	29.892	75	67	63	N	5.6*	...	b m	CK, KS
	16		29.788	82	70	52	NW	6.2*	...	b m	K, KS
	23rd	10	29.869	79	67	50	NNW	4.3*	...	b m	
	16		29.798	80	69	54	W	6.8*	...	b m	
	24th	10	29.917	76	63	44	NNE	6.4*	...	b m	
	16		29.844	76	60	34	W	9.8*	...	b m	
	25th	10	29.948	72	58	37	NNE	5.5*	...	b m	
	16		29.842	75	63	47	N	8.3*	...	b m	
AKYAB.	26th	10	29.928	73	60	42	NNW	4.9*	...	b m	
	16		29.839	76	61	37	W	8.6*	...	b m	
	27th	10	29.949	74	60	39	N	6.3*	...	b m	
	16		29.842	76	62	41	WNW	6.2*	...	b m	
	28th	10	29.948	75	63	47	N	6.5*	...	b m	
	16		29.852	78	62	41	W	8.9*	...	b m	C
	22nd	10	29.978	82	77	78	ENE	8*	...	b c	
	16		29.854	82	76	74	ENE	11*	...	b c	
CUTTACK.	23rd	10	29.951	82	76	74	NE	9*	...	b c	
	16		29.860	83	76	71	NE	11*	...	b c	
	24th	10	29.987	83	75	67	NNE	14*	...	b c	
	16		29.895	83	75	67	NE	15*	...	b c	
	25th	10	30.002	83	76	71	NE	14*	...	b c	
	16		29.907	81	74	70	NE	12*	...	b c	
	26th	10	30.030	82	73	68	NE	15*	...	b c	
	16		29.937	81	72	82	NE by N	12*	...	b c	
CUTTACK.	27th	10	30.054	80	69	54	NNE	12*	...	b c	
	16		29.923	80	70	58	NNR	14*	...	b c	
	28th	10	30.040	81	71	59	ENE	10*	...	b	
	16		29.915	79	70	61	NE	11*	...	b c	
CUTTACK.	22nd	10	30.004	74	70	81	E	7.8*	...	ou	K, S, N
	16		29.876	79	73	73	NE	12.5*	0.80	ou	N, KS
	23rd	10	29.984	76	71	77	NW	9.2*	...	m	CS, CK
	16		29.863	80	71	62	W by N	10.5*	...	...	KS, CS
	24th	10	30.032	72	63	58	NE	5.5*	...	b m	
	16		29.911	77	70	63	E	6.7*	...	m	CS
	25th	10	30.077	70	63	65	S	4.9*	...	m	C
	16		29.931	77	66	53	NW	5.5*	...	m	C
AKYAB.	26th	10	30.057	70	65	75	W	5.2*	...	m	C
	16		29.924	75	64	51	W	7.2*	...	b	C
	27th	10	30.070	69	63	70	SW	8.4*	...	b	C
	16		29.911	78	63	39	W by N	10.0*	...	b	
	28th	10	30.067	70	66	79	NW	3.4*	...	f, m	C
	16		29.926	78	62	35	N by W	11.0*	...	b	
	22nd	10	30.032	79	73	70	NE	1	...	b	
	16		29.773	83	77	75	NW	1	...	b	C
AKYAB.	23rd	10	Not received.								
	16		29.833	83	77	75	NW	1	...	b	
	24th	10	30.106	74	68	72	NE	1	...	b	
	16		29.903	79	73	73	E	1	...	b	
	25th	10	30.037	70	64	70	NE	1	...	b	
	16		29.911	76	70	72	NE	1	...	b	
	26th	10	30.033	68	62	69	NE	1	...	b	
	16		29.936	78	72	73	NW	1	...	b	
AKYAB.	27th	10	30.028	66	60	68	N	1	...	b	
	16		29.929	77	71	73	NE	1	...	b	
	28th	10	30.068	66	60	68	N	1	...	b	
	16		29.926	78	64	42	NW	1	...	b	

* Velocity of wind in miles per hour.

CALCUTTA,
The 29th January 1870.HENRY F. BLANFORD,
Meteorological Reporter to the Govt. of Bengal.

Weekly Report of Rainfall compiled at the Meteorological Reporter's Office.

Circuit.		Rain from 10th to 16th Jan. 1870.	Rain from 17th to 23rd Jan. 1870.	RAIN FROM 1st JANUARY 1870.		REMARKS.
				Rain.	Up to date.	
		Inch.	Inch.	Inch.		
SOUTH-WESTERN.	Pooree ...	Nil	Not received	Nil	16th Jan. 1870.	
	False Point ...	Not received	ditto	ditto	9th Jan. 1870.	
	Cuttack { Telegraph Office	Nil	1'00	1'00	23rd Jan. 1870.	
	{ Jail	ditto	1'05	1'05	ditto.	
	Sambulpore ...	ditto	Not received	Nil	16th Jan. 1870.	
WESTERN.	Balasore ...	ditto	1'18	1'18	23rd Jan. 1870.	
	Midnapore ...	Nil	0'90	0'90	23rd Jan. 1870.	
	Bancoorah ...	ditto	0'35	0'35	ditto.	
	Chyebassa ...	ditto	1'50	Nil	ditto.	
	Purulia ...	ditto	0'80	0'87	ditto.	
	Burdwan ...	ditto	0'20	0'20	ditto.	
	Raneegunge ...	ditto	0'15	0'15	ditto.	
	Sooree ...	Not received	Not received	....	....
CENTRAL.	Deoghur ...	Nil	0'40	0'40	23rd Jan. 1870.	
	Burhee ...	Not received	Not received	....	....
	Hazareebaugh ...	Nil	0'10	0'10	23rd Jan. 1870.	
	Saugor Island ...	Nil	Nil	Nil	23rd Jan. 1870.	
	Contai ...	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
	Calcutta ...	ditto	0'77	0'77	ditto.	
	Howrah ...	ditto	1'42	1'42	ditto.	
	Hooghly { Jail	ditto	1'00	1'00	ditto.	
NORTH-WESTERN.	{ College	Not received	Not received	....	....
	Jessore ...	Nil	0'20	0'20	23rd Jan. 1870.	
	Berhampore ...	ditto	Not received	Nil	16th Jan. 1870.	
	Furcedpore ...	ditto	Nil	ditto	23rd Jan. 1870.	
	Barriaul ...	Not received	Not received	....	....
	Bhaugulpore ...	Nil	0'50	0'50	23rd Jan. 1870.	
	Monghyr ...	ditto	0'16	0'16	ditto ...	Not received 3rd January.
	Patna ...	ditto	0'01	0'01	ditto.	
NORTHERN.	Arrah ...	ditto	Nil	Nil	ditto.	
	Buxar ...	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
	Chuprah ...	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
	Chumparun ...	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
	Benares ...	ditto	Not received	ditto	16th Jan. 1870.	
	Rampore Beaulah ...	Nil	Nil	Nil	23rd Jan. 1870.	
	Pubna ...	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
	Maldah ...	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
NORTH-EASTERN.	Bograh ...	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	Not received 1st to 9th Jan.
	Dinagopore ...	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
	Rungpore ...	Not received	Not received	ditto	9th Jan. 1870.	
	Julpigoree ...	Nil	Nil	ditto	23rd Jan. 1870.	
	Buxa ...	Not received	Not received	....	....
	Darjeeling ...	Nil	Nil	Nil	23rd Jan. 1870.	
	Gowalparah ...	Nil	Nil	Nil	23rd Jan. 1870.	
	Gowhatty ...	Not received	ditto	ditto	ditto ...	Not received 10th to 16th Jan.
EASTERN.	Shillong ...	Nil	Not received	ditto	16th Jan. 1870.	
	Nowgong ...	Not received	ditto	....	....
	Tezpor ...	Nil	ditto	Nil	16th Jan. 1870.	
	Dholebagaun ...	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
	Sebsangor ...	ditto	ditto	0'10	ditto.	
	Debrooghur ...	ditto	ditto	Nil	ditto ...	Not received 1st to 9th Jan.
	Samooogooding ...	Not received	ditto	....	....
	Cherra Poonjee ...	ditto	ditto	....	....
	Dacca ...	Not received	Nil	Nil	23rd Jan. 1870...	Not received 10th to 16th Jan.
	Mymensing ...	Nil	Not received	ditto	16th Jan. 1870.	
	Sylhet ...	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
	Cachar ...	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
	Aenakhall Hylakandy ...	Not received	ditto	....	....
	Tipperah ...	Nil	0'10	0'10	23rd Jan. 1870.	
	Noakhally ...	ditto	Nil	Nil	ditto.	
	Chitta- { Telegraph Office	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
	{ Jail	ditto	Not received.	ditto	16th Jan. 1870.	
	Rangamates Hill ...	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	

CALCUTTA,
The 29th January 1870. }HENRY F. BLANFORD,
Meteorological Reporter to the Govt. of Bengal.

Results of the Meteorological Observations taken at the Surveyor-General's Office, Calcutta, from 22nd to 31st January 1870.

MONTH.	Date.	Mean reduced Barometer.	THERMOMETER		Mix. Solar radiation, Thermometer.	Mean Dry Bulb.	Mean Wet Bulb.	Computed Mean Dew-point.	Mean Degree of Humidity.	WIND.			Rain.	GENERAL REMARKS.
			Highest Reading.	Lowest Reading.						Prevailing direction.	Max. pressure.	Daily velocity.		
		Inches.	°	°	°	°	°	°			lb.	Miles.	Inches	
Jan.	22nd	29.974	78.5	65.3	117.0	71.4	67.1	63.7	0.78	W by N & N E	...	90.7	0.02	Chiefly cirrocumuli. Drizzled 9 & 10 P. M.
	23rd	.984	77.0	65.5	114.0	70.0	64.2	59.6	.71	S W, W N W & N W	1.0	125.4	...	Cirrocumuli and clear.
	24th	30.000	74.3	57.4	115.5	65.1	57.0	50.5	.61	N N E & W	...	145.2	...	Clear. Slightly foggy at 10 & 11 P. M.
	25th	.028	75.6	56.0	116.0	65.2	57.3	51.0	.62	W & W N W	...	121.0	...	Clear. Slightly foggy from midnight to 2 A. M.
	26th	.014	76.6	55.7	117.8	65.4	57.9	51.0	.64	N by W & W N W	...	93.2	...	Clear and cirri. Slightly foggy from 7 to 11 P. M.
	27th	.008	76.7	57.0	116.2	66.3	58.7	52.6	.63	W N W & W S W	...	92.6	...	Clear. Slightly foggy at midnight & 1 A. M. & from 7 to 10 P. M.
	28th	.017	78.2	58.6	115.8	67.3	59.1	52.5	.61	S W & W N W	...	85.3	...	Chiefly clear. Slightly foggy from 8 to 11 P. M.
	29th	.022	78.4	57.0	117.0	66.8	58.9	52.6	.62	W N W & W by N	...	99.7	...	Clear. Slightly foggy at midnight.
	30th	.022	78.6	58.6	123.0	67.6	59.5	53.0	.61	W S W & W by N	...	110.6	...	Clear & cirri.
	31st	29.957	78.5	58.0	117.0	67.1	59.2	52.9	.62	W N W	...	82.0	...	Clear & cirri. Slightly foggy from 7 to 11 P. M.

The mean Barometer, as likewise the Dry and Wet Bulb Thermometer means, are derived from the twenty-four hourly observations made during the day.

The Dew-point is computed with the Greenwich constants.—The figures in column ten represent the humidity of the air, the complete saturation of which being taken at unity.—The receiver of the lower rain gauge is 1½ feet, and that of the Anemometer 70 feet 10 inches above the level of the ground.—The velocity of wind, as indicated by Robinson's Anemometer, is registered from noon to noon.

The extreme variation of temperature during the past ten days	...	22.8
The max. temperature during the past ten days	...	78.5
The max. temperature during the corresponding period of the past year	...	85.8
The mean humidity during the past ten days	...	0.65
The mean humidity during the corresponding period of the past year	...	0.76
		Inches.
The total fall of rain from 22nd to 31st...	{ by lower rain gauge	0.02
	{ by Anemometer gauge	0.01
Ditto ditto, average of sixteen previous years	...	0.31
Ditto between the 1st January and the 31st ultimo	...	0.77
Ditto ditto ditto, average of 16 years...	...	0.44

GOPEENATH SEN,

The 1st February 1870.

In charge of the Observatory.



SUPPLEMENT TO The Calcutta Gazette.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 1870.

OFFICIAL PAPERS.

Non-Subscribers to the GAZETTE may receive the SUPPLEMENT, separately, on a payment of six Rupees per annum if delivered in Calcutta, or twelve Rupees if sent by Post.

Proceedings of the Council of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal for the purpose of making Laws and Regulations.

Saturday, the 29th January 1870.

Present:

HIS HONOR THE LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR OF BENGAL, *Presiding.*

T. H. COWIE, Esq., *Advocate-General,*
THE HON'BLE ASHLEY EDEN,
A. MONEY, Esq., C.B.,
A. R. THOMPSON, Esq.,
V. H. SCHALCH, Esq.,
H. H. SUTHERLAND, Esq.,
RAJAH SATYANUND GHOSAL,

BABOO ISSUR CHUNDER GHOSAL,
BABOO CHUNDER MOHUN CHATTERJEE,
T. M. ROBINSON, Esq.,
F. F. WYMAN, Esq.,
AND
BABOO JOTEENDRO MOHUN TAGORE.

NEW MEMBER.

MR. SCHALCH took the oath of allegiance and the oath that he would faithfully fulfil the duties of his office.

CALCUTTA WATER-RATE.

MR. SCHALCH moved for leave to bring in a Bill to empower the Justices of the Peace for the town of Calcutta to levy a water-rate on the town. He said that the proposed Bill was published in the last *Gazette*, together with a statement of the objects and reasons of the Bill; but it would now be necessary for him briefly to allude to the circumstances under which it had been thought necessary to introduce the Bill. The council were aware that for a very long time the introduction of water into the town had received much consideration; in fact the idea of introducing a scheme for the supply of water dated back to the time of the old municipal commissioners and long before the present constitution of the municipality. But it was not till the year 1866 that a definite scheme was actually submitted to and approved by the Government. In that year a scheme was submitted and approved, and a contract was entered into with the well-known firm of Messrs. Brassey, Wythes and Co. for the construction of the works. With a view to meet the expenses of that construction, the Government of India very liberally came forward and placed at the disposal of the Justices a loan of 52 lakhs of Rupees on the condition that interest at 6 per cent. should be paid, and that 2 per cent. of that was to go to form a sinking fund for the repayment of the loan. The contract was entered into with Messrs. Brassey, Wythes and Co. on the condition that the work should be completed, under severe penalties for non-completion, within three years, that was to say by the 15th December 1869. The works were carried on with great energy, and were, with one exception, well executed and completed within the prescribed period. The exception referred to the great main which conducts the water from Pulta, the place whence the water was taken, to Talla in the vicinity of Calcutta. The Justices, not being satisfied that the main would bear the pressure stipulated for in the contract deed, refused to take over the works from the

contractors, and the matter had thus stood over. The agent for the contractors had gone home to represent the matter to his principals, and it was hoped that the matter would be satisfactorily settled. In the meantime the agent had entered into an agreement to allow the Justices to use the main for a supply of water to the town, without prejudice to their contention as to the main, and water had been brought into the town and supplied previously to the commencement of the present year. It is, however, necessary under the existing Act that before the Justices can impose a rate on the town to cover the expenses incurred in the supply of water, they should issue a notification declaring that the supply of water to the town was complete. This they were not in a position to do, so long as they had not the entire control of the works. The town had been supplied with water free of all cost, but expense had to be incurred, not only for the maintenance of the current establishment and the supply of coals, but also on account of the extensive item of interest on the Government loan, which at 6 per cent. on 52 lakhs amounted to Rs. 3,12,000 per annum. The subject was brought before the Justices by their chairman at a late meeting, which was very numerously attended: he submitted a proposition that the house rate should be raised until such time as the Justices were able to take over the works and were thus in a position to impose a rate. After a good deal of discussion that resolution was set aside in favor of one unanimously carried with a view to the introduction of a Bill to enable the Justices at once to meet the expenditure from the commencement of the present year, and a letter in the terms of the resolution was addressed by their chairman to the Government. In accordance with that letter from the Justices the present Bill had been brought forward.

The motion was agreed to.

MR. SCHALCH then applied to the President to suspend the rules for the conduct of business to enable him to move that the Bill be read in council, with a view to its being referred to a select committee with instruction to report in three days.

THE PRESIDENT having declared the rules suspended.

MR. SCHALCH moved that the Bill be read in council. In doing so, he said that he had applied to the President to suspend the rules because it was a matter of urgent necessity that the Justices should obtain money to meet the expenditure they were now incurring in connection with the supply of water to the town. With regard to the Bill itself, he (Mr. Schalch) would say a few words. The first section proposed to repeal Sections 12 and 13 of Act IX. of 1867. By the first of those sections it was necessary that a notification should be issued on the completion of the works; but under the circumstances which he had stated to the council the Justices were not in a position to ask the Government to issue such a notification. The other section proposed to be repealed, section 13 of Act IX. of 1867, enacted that the Justices should, after the issue of a notification, assess a water-rate on the town; but as, under the proposed Bill, a notification would not be required, it was necessary to repeal that section also. There was, however, a provision at the end of that section with regard to the repeal of which he wished to make a few observations. By that provision the assessment of the rate was limited to those houses and premises of which there should be some portion situate within 150 yards of some stand-pipe duly charged with water. The section previous to the two sections proposed to be repealed provided that the Justices should lay down such mains and pipes and such tanks, reservoirs, or other works as should be necessary for the supply of water in all the chief public streets of the town, and should erect in the chief streets sufficient and convenient stand-pipes for the gratuitous use of the inhabitants of the town. That provision had been most fully complied with, for it would be seen, from a map which he held in his hand, that not only had the chief streets been supplied with mains and stand-pipes, but that they had been extended to almost every street, with the exception of a few small streets in which there was no thoroughfare, and streets in which from the sinuosity of their course pipes could not be laid. There was but a small proportion of houses which were not within a radius of 150 yards of a stand-pipe; there were very few not within 200 yards, and he doubted whether there were any at all which were not within 250 yards. The supply of stand-pipes was almost unlimited. A glance at the map would show that they were scattered very freely throughout the town. He did not believe there was any town in which such measures were taken for a gratuitous supply of water. He knew from his own experience that in London, with the exception of a few pumps or stand-pipes for the use of cab-horses, there were scarcely any means of obtaining the free use of water; the supply for watering the streets being kept under lock and key. Here, on the contrary, the supply had been liberal and up to the requirements of the Act, except in the case of the large villages scattered about the town, and in these it was indeed impossible to lay down pipes, because they consisted of a mass of huts without any regular roads. The Justices must have gone to the great expense of purchasing the land and pulling down the huts before they could lay down the pipes; but even in these parts of the town there was not a hut not within 250 yards of a stand-pipe, because the blocks were surrounded by roads in which there were pipes. If this restriction in the existing law were retained, the rate-payers would have to pay an additional $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. by exempting from the payment of the rate those who had every facility for using the water, and who did doubtless use it. Under these circumstances he did not think that the alteration of the law in this respect could in any way be objected to.

The second section of the Bill assigned power to assess the water-rate without regard to any notification; and the third section distinctly laid down the purposes for which it would be necessary to assess an annual rate. This would vary from year to year; and as the purposes for which the rate would be applicable would vary from year to year, it was thought desirable to lay down no maximum rate. The reason for adopting this course was two-fold. Hitherto more than once a maximum rate had been objected to on the ground that the result would be to induce the executive to frame their estimates up to the limit, and then to work up to it; and the Justices took no further interest in checking these estimates. Supposing a maximum rate to be fixed, and supposing that the bursting of pipes or other accident carried the budget beyond the limit of the rate: you would either fail in retaining the maximum rate and therefore be bound to disobey the requirements of the law in not providing the amount required to be levied for the purposes of the Act, or if you obeyed it in the latter respect you must exceed the maximum. This, however, was a question entirely for the consideration of the council: if the council preferred it, a maximum rate could be fixed. As far as he could ascertain from the accounts, from his own knowledge of the matter, and the estimates submitted by the chairman, he thought that a 5 per cent. rate would cover the annual expenditure mentioned under this section. The existing law limited the rate to 4 per cent; but practically that was not the case, because when the scheme was under the consideration of Government the expenses were always taken at 5 lakhs a year, which is equivalent to a 5 per cent. rate. But the Justices then agreed that in consideration of the advantage that the town would derive in the watering of roads, the flushing of drains, and other municipal purposes, the municipal fund should contribute 1 lakh, leaving 4 lakhs to be raised by a rate. But latterly, when the Justices determined to reduce the house-rate, it also determined to pay no money from the municipal fund towards the expenses of the water-supply that had tended to add the extra one per cent. to the proposed water-rate. It was a fair matter for consideration, where the owners, who were very largely represented in the municipality, chose to throw over the responsibility which had been undertaken, whether some portion of the existing rate should not be thrown on the owner, instead of imposing the whole burden on the occupier. He merely threw out these suggestions for the consideration of any hon'ble member who might think them worthy of consideration.

The remaining sections of the Bill were not of importance. The 4th section provided that the water-rate should be levied in the manner provided for the levy of the rate by Act VI. of 1863, and the 5th and 6th sections related to the construction and commencement of the Act.

MR. SUTHERLAND said that he was sure that the council must be indebted to the hon'ble member for the clear and full history he had given of all that had taken place connected with the introduction of water into the town, and there was no one better able to state the case clearly to the council than the hon'ble member from his recent position as the head of the municipality. He (Mr. Sutherland) admitted that there was no help now but to impose a rate: the money had been expended, and the water was on, and the rate must be levied from the 1st of January. He believed that it was the general opinion that this was inevitable. With regard to the 3rd section of the Bill, he observed that the whole possible outlay was enumerated under the different heads there specified; and he admitted that none of these could well be cut cut, but he sympathised to a great degree with the view taken by some hon'ble members of the council that a maximum rate was desirable. He was aware that there were objections to a maximum rate, but as on this point suggestions had been thrown out by the hon'ble mover for the consideration of the select committee, he (Mr. Sutherland) had no doubt that the subject would be fully discussed by the committee. The hon'ble member had also alluded to a matter which he (Mr. Sutherland) had been considering, *viz.*, the incidence of the assessment. The 4th Section simply stated that the rate would be levied in the manner provided by Act VI. of 1863, by Section 62 of which the rate falls exclusively on the occupier. As the matter stands at present, the mode in which the water is supplied is more suited to the watering of streets, than to the benefit of the inhabitants for household purposes. They will still have to get their supplies as heretofore at no diminution of cost. He presumed that in all the large cities of Europe the rate was levied from the occupier, but then the proprietor laid on the pipes to the houses and the water was at the hands of the occupier. Here it was very different. He thought, moreover, that a full supply of water was a universal blessing, and for that reason alone he thought that the tax should be shared in by all persons, the absentee house owner—the value of whose property was increased, as well as the regular resident. He only threw out these observations as suggestions: this was not the time to say anything except as to the general principles of the Bill, but he threw out these remarks for the consideration of the select committee to whom the Bill would be referred.

MR. WYMAN said that there was one point to which he thought the hon'ble mover of the Bill had hardly sufficiently referred—that was the probable reduction of expenditure which the municipality would enjoy from the introduction of the water-supply. If the taxation was to fall on the owners or occupiers of houses or both, the municipality surely should bear its share of the burden, as it would derive very considerable benefit for municipal purposes from the introduction of water: it would involve the abolition of the establishment of *bluestees* as well as do away with the necessity of water-casks. He believed that the

system of watering streets by a hose, as adopted at Paris, would ultimately be introduced here as being much more rapid, cleanly, and economical. The expense now incurred here for watering was considerable, and was paid from the general rates. Now presuming that the maximum assessment for the water-rate was fixed at 5 per cent., it should be taken into consideration whether the original amount of 4 per cent. would not be sufficient to levy, bearing in mind that though the house-rate had been fixed at 9 instead of at 10 per cent., yet that the expenses of the municipality would also presumably be reduced from the causes above stated.

There were many other points to which he would like to refer, but they would doubtless come under attention by the select committee. He strongly agreed with the hon'ble member who spoke last that a maximum rate should be fixed, and that the landlord should bear a share of the rate with his tenant, for the reason that his property would become greatly improved; for as soon as pipes were laid in a house, the chances of its letting would be much greater. And again the benefit of a water-supply was not only to occupiers, but to owners, whose property was benefited by every thing that tended to the benefit of the town.

He observed that the rate of assessment was originally fixed by Act VI. of 1863 at 2 per cent; that was repealed by Act IX. of 1867, and the rate was increased to 4 per cent. The tendency of all municipal budgets was to increase in a very alarming degree from the original estimate; and therefore, although by fixing a maximum rate there was a tendency, as the hon'ble mover of the Bill had said, to work up to that rate, still, where we saw this disposition in municipalities to go beyond original estimates, he was afraid that to give them absolute power to work up to anything their extravagance might lead them, would be an alarming and dangerous power. He observed that the Bill enacted that the water-rate should be sufficient not only to provide for the current expenses and the interest on the Government loan, but also for all expenses incurred in any amendments, reparations, and extensions of the works. The hon'ble mover of the Bill had just stated that he considered the supply of water provided here to be most complete and efficient, and far exceeding anything of the kind existing in England or elsewhere. He (Mr. Wyman) believed the hon'ble member was right; and since that was so, there surely could not be any necessity for extensions of the works. If liberty to extend the works was allowed, and power conferred to cover the cost of extensions by taxation, it might possibly lead to extensions never contemplated in the original scheme and which did not seem necessary. These, however, were amendments which had better be considered in committee. The motion was then agreed to and the Bill referred to a select committee consisting of Mr. Sutherland, Rajah Satyanund Ghosal, Mr. Wyman, Baboo Joteendro Mohun Tagore, and the mover, with instructions to report within three days.

COURT OF WARDS.

MR. MONEY moved that the report of the select committee on the Bill to consolidate and amend the law relating to the Court of Wards within the provinces under the control of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal be further considered in order to the settlement of the clauses of the Bill.

The motion was agreed to.

The consideration of sections 49, 50, and 51 was postponed.

Section 52 was agreed to.

The consideration of sections 53 to 57 was postponed.

Section 58 was agreed to.

Section 59 provided that the Court of Wards might direct that a minor should remain at the sudder station or any other place approved by the Board of Revenue, either with or without his guardian, and should attend such school or college as to the Court or Board might seem expedient, and might make such provision as might be necessary for the proper care and maintenance of the minor whilst attending a school or college.

BABOO JOTEENDRO MOHUN TAGORE thought that a guardian's duty required him to remain with his ward; he could not be expected to discharge his duties a hundred miles off. If that were allowed the office of guardian would be a sinecure. In cases where the minor was sent to the sudder station, the collector, or in the Wards' Institution the superintendent, would take charge of the ward; but in other places he (Baboo Joteendro Mohun Tagore) thought the guardian should accompany the ward.

MR. MONEY said that originally by Regulation X. of 1793 it was made a part of the duty of the guardian—and his chief duty—that he should take steps for the proper education of his ward. Subsequently, by Act XXVI. of 1854 the entire control and superintendence of the education of a minor ward was taken away from the guardian, and vested in the hands of the Court of Wards. He (Mr. Money) did not see that a guardian could be expected to do for his ward anything more than a father would do for his son. The office of a guardian would not cease because his ward was sent to the Wards' Institution, and there would, therefore, be no necessity for appointing the director of the Institution to be guardian. The hon'ble member had not indicated what amendment he proposed.

BABOO JOTEENDRO MOHUN TAGORE said that he had no amendment to propose; he only alluded to the point in the hope that His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor would take the subject into consideration when framing the rules under the Act.

The section was then agreed to with a verbal amendment.

Section 60 was agreed to.

Sections 61 to 65 were agreed to with verbal amendments.

Section 66 provided that no adoption could be made by a ward without the consent of the Lieutenant-Governor.

BABOO JOTEENDRO MOHUN TAGORE asked whether the restriction imposed by this section was intended to extend to an *Onoomotro pottro*, or leave to adopt, given by a ward to his widow at his death-bed. In such cases there could possibly be no time to obtain the consent of the Lieutenant-Governor through the Court of Wards and the Board of Revenue.

THE ADVOCATE-GENERAL said that he understood the hon'ble member to refer to the case where a ward died and left a power to his widow to adopt. He should say that an infant ward, and a ward who might be a ward by reason of lunacy, could not execute any valid power to adopt.

BABOO ISSER CHUNDER GHOSAL said that by the hindoo law a person of the age of 16 years could make a will; it was only by regulation law that he was held disqualified for certain purposes till the age of 18.

THE ADVOCATE-GENERAL said that he understood that there had been a decision of the High Court on that point. There was a recent decision of a full bench that a hindoo was not of full age until he was of the age of 18.

The further consideration of the section was then proposed.

Section 67 was agreed to with slight amendments.

Section 68 was agreed to.

Section 69 provided that on the termination of a wardship, the Court of Wards shall make an order that its superintendence and jurisdiction shall cease on a date not more than sixty nor less than fifteen days from the date of the order.

THE ADVOCATE-GENERAL asked whether there was any necessity for fixing a minimum term.

MR. MONEY thought that there must be some minimum, or the Court might fix a period of two or three days for the making over of the estate.

THE ADVOCATE-GENERAL thought that it would be desirable to provide for the issue of a prospective order, as it would always be known prospectively when the superintendence of the Court would cease.

On the motion of Mr. Money, the following words were added to the section: "Until the date notified, the estate or property shall remain under the charge of the Court under this Act."

The further consideration of the section and of the Bill was then postponed.

The Council was adjourned to Wednesday, the 9th February.

Report on the Baronee Mela of 1869.

From D. B. SMITH, Esq., M.D., Sanitary Commissioner for Bengal, to A. MACKENZIE, Esq., Officiating Junior Secretary to the Government of Bengal,—(dated Calcutta, the 29th December 1869.)

I BEG to submit, for the information of Government, the following notes regarding the recent *Kartick Baronee mela*, held on the Moonsheegunge *chur*, thirteen miles from Dacca.

2. In accordance with the instructions of His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor, conveyed in your No. 2391, dated 15th November, I left Calcutta on the 20th November, and arrived at Dacca on the 22nd instant.

Arrival at Dacca.

3. On the 23rd I placed myself in communication with Mr. F. Simson, the commissioner of the division, with Dr. Buckle, the deputy inspector-general of hospitals, and with Dr. H. C. Cutcliffe, officiating civil surgeon of Dacca. We consulted on the subject of the *mela*, and as to the arrangements that should be carried out.

Preliminary enquiry.

4. On the following day I met Mr. G. Graham, the magistrate of Dacca, who had just returned from the fair.

First visit to the fair. Result of it.

5. On the same day (24th November) Dr. Buckle and I went together to the *mela*, and carefully inspected all parts of it.

6. Having returned, I addressed the annexed letter (*marked A*) to Mr. Graham the magistrate, on the points which seemed most deserving of attention in the camp.

7. Mr. Graham devoted prompt and careful attention to my suggestions, and issued orders accordingly.

8. I ought to mention, however, that before my arrival at the *mêla* the camp had been carefully laid out, and general conservancy arrangements made. Arrangements made in camp by the magistrate. Sixteen sweepers had been entertained, and directed to remove all rubbish, and to preserve general cleanliness. The police

had received exact instructions as to what was expected of them. Regularity and order had been preserved in the arrangement of the fair. There was no massing together of huts. The fish and vegetable markets were separate. Ground was specially set apart for the public women (60 or 70 in number), who had come thither from different places. A hospital site had been judiciously selected, separated from the camp at its eastern limit by the Moonsheegunge *khall*. A row of high bamboo poles, erected from 150 to 300 yards in rear of the camp, indicated the northern boundary of the space set apart for natural offices.

9. I returned to the *mêla* on the 26th instant, having the advantage of again accompanying the deputy inspector-general of hospitals.

Second visit to the fair.

10. Dr. Cutcliffe had visited the camp before my arrival at Dacca, but it was impossible for him to remain there in consequence of the urgency of his regular station duties. I desire to state, however, that before he knew of my having been deputed by Government to be present at the Baronee gathering, he had written to me asking to be informed as to what arrangements I thought should be carried out, and expressing his desire to do what lay in his power for the proper regulation of the camp.

Dr. Cutcliffe had previously visited it.

11. On the night of the 26th, between 10 and 11 p.m., being curious to observe the condition of the camp at such a time, Dr. Buckle, Mr. Graham and I walked through it. We found the shops all closed, and perfect stillness prevailing. Even the quarter occupied by the women was quiet and orderly.

Night inspection of the camp.

12. On the following morning, at day-break, I passed up and down the river, and inspected all the country boats along the bank. I could detect no wilful defilement of the river water. Many boats were seen passing across the river to the opposite *chur*, where hundreds of persons from the camp resorted.

Early morning inspection.

Daily inspections.

General description of the camp.

The *chur*.

Soil.

13. During my stay in camp I visited the different parts of it at least twice a day.

14. The camp itself is situated on the Moonsheegunge *chur*, on the southern bank of the Dullessery, at the junction of that river with the Lukhya.

The *chur* is about a mile and a half in length, and four or five hundred yards across at its broadest part, bounded behind by a tidal *khall*.

The soil is altogether alluvial, with water immediately below the surface.

In passing up the river Dullessery the eye is attracted by the large camp skirting its southern bank. Many hundreds of mat huts are observed in regular order near the river's edge, and a dense line of country boats is seen bordering the river-face of the encampment.

Distant view of the camp.

A quarter of a mile beyond the fair, to the west, were the magistrate's tents, and at the extreme limit of the position, at each end, a so-called quarantine post, or rather a point of observation, where a small party of police remained, whose duty it was to hail all boats newly arriving at the fair, and to see that no contagious disease was thus introduced from without. Arrest of intercourse was not attempted or desired, but a general watch was kept against any preventible outside danger. One of the points of observation was to the east of the hospital; the other on the extreme western flank of the camp, close to *Rikabi bazar*.

The outskirts of camp. Points of observation.

The camp for the most part consisted of a single, broad, main street, with huts or boats on each side. To the rear of the line, at the far end, was the fish bazar and the vegetable market. At the back of the camp was open ground, the southern limit of which was resorted to by the people for necessary purposes. Behind this is the *khall* or former bed of the *Isamuttee nuddy*.

General plan of the *mêla*.

The hospital.

The hospital was situated at the extreme eastern limit, separated from the fair by the *khall*.

A good general description of the Baronee *mêla* is to be found in the supplement to the *Calcutta Gazette* dated 14th February 1866, by A. L. Clay, Esq., formerly assistant magistrate of Moonsheegunge. Mr. Livesay's report of last year's gathering was published in the supplement to the *Calcutta Gazette* dated 29th September 1869.

Former descriptions of the Baronee.

The main street of the fair this year presented the appearance of a broad and busy eastern bazar, every booth or hut being open, and its contents fully displayed. The little shops were of great variety. In many of them one observed all kinds of pedlar's wares. Everything in common use was to be found.

Merchants and traders, from many distant parts of the country, were here assembled. In walking along one saw toys, fancy goods, and sundries of all sorts; English and American piece goods, shawls from Umritsur, brocades from Delhi, fancy work from Bombay, carpets from Mirzapore, blankets from Ghazepore, shoes from Calcutta, stone-jars and cups from Patna, Monghyr, and Gya, mats from Furreedpore, silver work from Dacca, hookahs from Chittagong, toys from Sonergong, shells from Gunga Saugor, pottery from Bickrampore, cotton from Chittagong, fruit from Cabul, spice leaves from Sylhet, tobacco from Rungpore, bamboos from Comillah, timber from Burrisaul; brass, copper, and iron utensils from Mymensing and Naraingunge, broadcloths from Benares, &c., &c. It is thus observable that people from all directions are wont to congregate annually to Baronee méla.

15. From a return supplied by the deputy magistrate of Moonsheegunge, it would appear that the total number of persons assembled at the fair, including daily visitors, was 58,000, the number of boats was 4,355, and the number of shops 648. The gross value of the merchandise is returned at Rs. 28,30,953.

16. It would be a great pity to put a stop to such fairs as the Baronee. They play a somewhat important part in the social history of the people, who, year by year, following the custom of their fathers, take delight in hastening to a scene where the conjunction of circumstances is very pleasing to their simple tastes. Such a gathering quite fulfils their general ideas of happiness. Many come to it from mere innocent curiosity, and for recreation, which they probably talk about for the remainder of the year. Others see in it a useful and pleasant emporium of trade. In the eyes of some a certain degree of sanctity attaches to the spot, and accordingly they approach it with feelings of veneration and piety, their boats being wafted thither along the waters of, to them, sacred streams, such as the Brahmapootra, Lukhya, Megna, Boorigunga, Dullessery, &c. Traders, combining pleasure with profit, come from far distant points; the people of all the surrounding districts flock annually to the spot with cheerful animation; and villagers around come in to the fair, day by day, with a childish enthusiasm.

17. It must be conceded that all large gatherings of the people in this country are attended by certain risks to public health; yet considering the social, religious, legendary and commercial aspects of the Baronee méla it would, I think, be very inadvisable to prevent its occurrence. The people should, however, be made fully to understand that such massing of human beings can only be allowed on condition that every individual is ready to listen to reason, and to act strictly according to necessary sanitary regulations. Whether it be the seller of country dyes (whose simple establishment consists of his colors spread out on the mat in the open), or the rich cloth merchant with his well-appointed shop, or the poor women in their miserable mat cabins, each and all should be made to know and to feel that they must implicitly obey the orders regarding conservancy and public health promulgated by the magistrate for general guidance. This is the one condition, unmistakeably proclaimed and understood, upon which such gatherings should be allowed to occur. In default of cleanliness pestilence is ever ready to appear.

18. The méla was this year supposed to commence on the 19th November. On the 14th *idem* not a hut had been constructed; by the 19th about one-quarter of the shops were erected; by the 24th all were ready.

19. On the 27th *instant* it was found that the air in rear of the camp was being much contaminated from the fact of the people being allowed to defecate wherever they pleased on the surface of the soil, so long as they went behind the line of bamboo poles. It became absolutely necessary to make better arrangements.

A number of trenches were accordingly prepared, and the people were directed, by beat of drum, to resort to them, and not to defile the ground around. At first a good deal of opposition was made to this rule; but as the cleanliness or foulness of the place altogether depended upon it, decided firmness had to be exercised. The appeals of the richer men, to be allowed to have their own privy arrangements, could not be acceded to. Concessions of all kinds had to be set aside, and this most necessary rule was inflexibly insisted on. The police received orders from the magistrate to be continually on the alert, and to bring before him any individuals detected infringing rules. All night soil which had accumulated on the ground was carefully covered with earth, and policemen and *mehlers* were posted near each trench.

20. The annexed explanatory notification (*marked B*) was at the same time issued by the magistrate, and proclaimed in all parts of the *méla*. It was translated into Bengali by Baboo Boikuntha Nath Sen, deputy inspector of schools, Bickrampore, who took considerable pains in explaining to the people that the object of the stringent regulations was by no means to inconvenience or annoy the public, but to preserve a wholesome cleanliness, and, as far as possible, to guard the people from the spread of cholera which had already invaded the camp.

Explanatory proclamation to the people.

General rules of guidance for the police and the people.

21. The accompanying instructions (*marked C and D*) were then also drawn up and translated into Bengali. These consist of general rules for the guidance of the crowd and of the police.

22. I presume to think that these, or similar notifications, might with advantage be made generally known on all occasions of large gatherings of the people in Bengal. They should be thrown off in considerable numbers in Bengali, and placed in conspicuous parts of camp. The directions for the people might also be daily proclaimed by beat of drum.

These might be generally adopted on future occasions.

23. After the preparation of the trenches, the warning of the people, the systematic disposal of sweepers, and the enforcement of increased vigilance on the part of the police, great improvements occurred, and the atmosphere in rear of camp was not at all what it had previously been. One could now move about in all directions without being offended and oppressed by pernicious odours; rubbish was removed regularly; decaying weeds were cleared from the river's edge and burnt at a safe distance; over-crowding of boats in the *khall* was prevented; the fish market was kept clean; the police and *mehlers* made regular rounds; flags indicated the particular spots at which cholera cases had occurred; the trenches were in general use; the soil around was no longer defiled, and things were conducted properly and systematically. This change for the better was of the highest importance. It was the result of judicious and firm authority prevailing over the great natural apathy of the people. Without this it is certain that the camp and its vicinity must, day by day, have become more and more offensive.

The people do not appreciate the necessity for strict conservancy rules. Their action in the matter.

24. I am induced to dwell on this point somewhat strongly, as it is to be remarked that some of the shop-keepers in camp, inclined at first to resist the regulations laid down, gave it out as their intention to petition His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor as to the grievance inflicted on them in the matter of the camp conservancy arrangements. Indeed I have since learnt that they telegraphed an appeal to the Government, begging for a relaxation of the rules.

25. It is my opinion that any such petition is unreasonable; that all the rules which were enforced at the Baronee *méla* this year were well-judged and absolutely necessary; and that, without such distinct and well-defined arrangements, strictly enforced in every particular, no camp or gathering of this sort can possibly be regulated as it ought to be. Without well-judged rules, duly enforced, public gatherings like the Baronee become very dangerous to the community. It is only by watching and keeping within reasonable limits the personal actions of individuals that the public good and safety can be maintained. It is true this must sometimes entail slight inconvenience to the individual, but without it the mass is constantly liable to be assailed by serious dangers, the extent of which cannot be defined. Preventible disease may thus be engendered and spread abroad to the serious detriment of society.

26. I trust that His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor will withhold his assent to any appeals for the relaxation of reasonable and indispensably necessary conservancy arrangements. Such matters cannot safely be left to the caprice of individuals; and it is in large camps particularly that, for the public weal, authoritative orders should be laid down, and implicit and unquestioning obedience to them enforced. The value and strength of such orders altogether lie in not permitting them to be transgressed to the slightest degree. There being a natural inclination in humanity to disregard precautions against evils that may possibly never occur, and to discard all thought of such matters in anticipation of their advent—and this tendency being peculiarly noticeable in India—it is most necessary to provide against the baneful effects of all ignorant contempt of hygiene, ingrained indifference, unscrupulous disregard of past experience, and habitual unconcern for the public safety evinced by the inexcusable violation of the simplest laws of public health.

Were the people to be permitted indiscriminately to act as they please in such matters, instead of the camp being clean, there would be no limit to its concentrated impurity, resulting from organic decomposition.

The restrictions laid down at the Baronee were of the most simple character, involving no cost to the people. They were not only expedient, but indispensably necessary for the maintenance of order and for the safety of the community. They simply implied precaution and protection, not interference.

Government should not accede to any alteration in the rules.

Laxity in such matters involves certain and serious danger to the public.

One of the sub-inspectors of police made himself most useful.

man's willingness and good service at the *méla*.

28. It is an important fact that the zemindars, upon whose land the fair was held, contributed funds.

The zemindars contributed funds.

29. The hospital accommodation, which at first appeared too small for the probable requirements, of the camp, was increased at Dr. Buckle's suggestion. The establishment was also strengthened. Later there were in camp three native doctors and one compounder. Fortunately their services were not much required. They moved about the camp, and enquired if any sickness was prevailing. The evacuations of the sick in hospital were carefully disinfected, and buried at a long distance from the camp. General cleanliness was closely attended to; sulphur fumigation and sprinkling of carbolic acid were practised; the patients had soup and other special requirements of diet, and also suitably warm bedding. The clothes and foul linen of those who died in hospital were carefully destroyed, and burial or cremation of the dead was conducted, under close supervision, at a distance.

Hospital arrangements.

30. On the 3rd December, having been eight days in the camp, and there being then no cholera cases, I went for a week to Mymensing, and returned from Dacca to the *méla* on the 17th December.

Left the camp after a week's stay.

31. At this date the camp was found to be smaller than before, as the people had commenced to leave it. Mr. Page had relieved Mr. Graham of the duty of looking after the *méla*; and I found that the conservancy arrangements had been attended to with care during my absence. The trench system was being worked properly, without any nuisance resulting. There was one case of cholera in the hospital, which terminated favorably.

Returned to it.

Gradual diminution in the size of the fair.

32. I did not return to the camp after the 17th December.

Return of cholera cases in camp, with remarks.

33. Annexed (marked E) is a statement of the cholera cases that occurred. The table shows that eight cases of cholera occurred in the camp; and two others, both fatal, were known to occur in its immediate vicinity.

Of the eight cases in camp, five proved fatal and three recovered.

Of the five fatal cases one was in the person of a man who was found dead (having apparently died of cholera). He had received no medical treatment.

Great difficulty has as usual been experienced in collecting information regarding the personal history of each of the patients attacked.

The man *Poorun Sing*, constable, had come in a boat from Mymensing with other constables in charge of a batch of prisoners. He arrived in Dacca on the 10th November, and left it on the 13th at 10 A.M. During these three days he lived in the boat, which lay by the sudder ghat. At 3 P.M. of the 13th he arrived in the boat, with his comrades, at Futtoolah, which is about four miles south of Dacca, on the river Boorigunga. On arrival he ate a meal at Futtoolah. That evening he was seized with cholera. On approaching the Baronee he was put into another boat, and taken to the Moonsheegunge jail, hospital at about 10 A. M. of the 14th instant. He died there on the 16th instant, never having gone actually into the camp.

It is much to be regretted that the general history of the case of the man named Shamboo Nath Shaha from Sylhet was not properly entered into by the police. The inspector, by name Baboo Hurry Mohun Chatterjee, was requested to have careful enquiry made in this case, but nothing was discovered under his orders.

I must here remark that the said inspector of police did not seem to me to exert himself in any such enquiries; and, so far as I could perceive, he evinced a luke-warm interest in matters of general conservancy. His subordinate, Prag Dutt Tewari, set him a good example in this respect.

Exact particulars are wanting of the three cases (marked Nos. 2, 4, and 6 in the table) which came from Dacca.

From the imperfection of investigation on the part of the police, the story of cholera in the camp remains incomplete. This is the more to be regretted, since, in my remarks to Government on the Baronee *méla* of last year, I particularly insisted on the importance of carefully tracing out to their origin, and in all their relations, the earliest cases of cholera. On the present occasion this cannot be said to have been well done.

The general information collected by the police was vague. The questions *q. h. i.*, to be found in paragraph 13 of the "notice for the information of the police," remain without answers. I think this need not have been so had more searching enquiry been instituted.

As it is, we can only say:—

1st.—That a man named Poorun Sing, lately from Mymensing, left Dacca on the 13th November, and died at Moonsheegunge on the 16th instant.

2nd.—A prostitute, by name Jankee, from Barokhally (Dacca), after four days' residence at the fair, was attacked on the evening of the 22nd November, and died next morning in the camp hospital.

3rd.—A man from Sylhet (named Shamboo Nath Shaha) having been eight days at the fair, was attacked on the 22nd November; he recovered from collapse, but died on the 1st December, from the effects of consecutive fever.

Cholera prevailed in Sylhet before the date of the Baronee.

4th.—A man named Sheikh Gosie, from the Tipperah district, having been one day at the fair, was seized on the 23rd November, and died the same day.

5th.—A beggar, by name Antal Beharee, from Kookotya (Dacca), was attacked immediately on his arrival, 24th November. He recovered after an illness of three days.

6th.—A man named Nusseerooddin, lately from Calcutta, left Jungeerah (Dacca) for the Baronee. He was seized on the 26th November, six days after his arrival in the camp. He recovered, and was discharged cured after six days.

7th.—A man named Asookalli, from the town of Dacca, six days after his arrival in camp, was seized on the 27th November, and died the following day.

8th.—A man from Barondee (Dacca), having been ten days at the Baronee, seems to have been seized with cholera during the night; and having had no medical treatment, was found dead in the morning.

9th.—A boatman (named Nursing Kaiburto) from Mymensing, two or three hours after his arrival in camp, was taken ill and immediately placed under treatment. Recovered.

10th.—A mohurir of the magistrate's court, lately from Dacca, died in a small village close to the khall, behind the magistrate's tents.

34. It is worthy of remark that cholera was prevailing in Dacca before the Baronee *mela* commenced.

The disease was prevailing at Dacca before the Baronee *mela* commenced.

It used to be generally supposed, in former years, that the disease usually originated at the Baronee, and thence extended to Dacca. Dr. Wise discovered from a careful study of past records that this was a somewhat erroneous impression, and that in point of fact the disease almost invariably commenced at Dacca itself, and afterwards spread to the Baronee. It certainly was so this year.

35. It is not unusual for the disease to appear generally throughout the district soon after the fair is over. This was observed last year, and is noted in Mr. F. B. Simson's letter to the Secretary to the Government of Bengal, (No. 8, dated 13th January 1869,) published in the supplement to the *Calcutta Gazette* of 29th September 1869.

It is still an open question whether such dissemination of the disease is due to general causes or to direct propagation from individuals affected. I myself incline to the former view of the case. It is to be observed that in the camp, where thousands of people were brought together, two attacks occurred on 22nd November, one on 23rd, one on 24th, one on 25th, one on 27th, one on 4th December, and one on 16th December.

36. I have received the annexed return (marked F) from Baboo Gopal Chunder Pattuck, the sub-assistant surgeon of the Mitford hospital, regarding the recent prevalence of cholera at Dacca.

The sub-assistant surgeon has also furnished me with the following statement. The first appearance of the recent outbreak in the town of Dacca may be dated from the 29th October 1869.

The first case occurred in Bungla bazar, in the eastern part of the town. The second case was in Sickshab bazar. The sub-assistant surgeon writes: "The disease, as far as I have been able to ascertain, was not imported from any other place, but originally broke out in Dacca itself."

37. From 7th November to 21st December 34 cases were admitted into the Mitford hospital: of these 19 were cured, 14 died, and one remained.

38. The cholera cases occurred in the Dacca jail from 1st October to 21st December.

39. Two cases occurred in the lunatic asylum: one on the 27th November, fatal; another on 10th December, recovered.

40. But for the few (eight) cases of cholera already referred to, the general health of the people at the *mela* was very good indeed. Scarcely any case of sickness appeared, although the police and native doctors had orders to try to discover and relieve all who might be suffering. Only two or three cases of diarrhoea came under treatment.

41. On the whole the sanitary report of the *mela* for the present year may be regarded as satisfactory.

Whether season or hygienic regulations had most to do with such a result I cannot pretend to determine. In either case it is satisfactory to know that reasonable and careful precautions were adopted.

42. I beg to express my obligation to Mr. Graham and to Mr. Page for the perfect readiness with which they listened to, and acted up to all suggestions which I had to offer for the sanitary regulation of the camp.

A rough general plan of the Baronee encampment and its surroundings is attached to these notes.

The magistrate and assistant magistrate took much interest in the sanitary regulation of the camp.

Annexed is a sketch plan of the position.

A

From D. B. SMITH, Esq., M.D., Sanitary Commissioner for Bengal, to G. GRAHAM, Esq.,
Magistrate of Dacca,—(dated Dacca, the 25th November 1869.)

HAVING yesterday visited and carefully gone over the *Baronee méla*, accompanied by Dr. Buckle, deputy inspector-general of hospitals, I have the honor to offer a few remarks to you on the subject.

2. The general plan upon which the encampment has been laid out appears to be as good as the topographical features of the locality will admit of. A main street of good breadth, lined on both sides by booths and mat huts, clearly offers great facilities in the way of general supervision.

3. At certain parts of the encampment this plan of a single straight line is somewhat deviated from, and huts appear more or less in blocks. The more they can be kept in actual straight lines the better, over-crowding and obstructed ventilation being thus guarded against.

4. Openings here and there occur between the huts. It may perhaps be said that there are rather too few of these. This could very easily be altered, and I think it would be advisable to open out a few more cross roads.

5. The orders you have passed, causing every person to obey the calls of nature at a fixed and marked distance of 150 to 300 yards from the main line of the fair, are quite in the right direction. The distance seemed to me to be sufficient. As yet, however, all the people have been defecating on the soil in an irregular manner, to the rear of the boundary line. On visiting this part of the ground offensive odours were found to prevail intensely on all sides.

6. I was led to understand that you had passed orders that shallow trenches should be dug, and that every individual should be directed to make use of the said trenches, and so avoid defiling the localities around. Such trenches, however, have not yet been made; and it is of much importance that this should be done at once. The people must be made to use the trenches. The inspector of police informed me that they did not wish to have this arrangement, and that they desire to be allowed to go on as they are now doing. This should not be listened to for a moment. The utmost strictness must be enforced in carrying out a systematic and cleanly plan. Without this the surroundings of the *méla* must of necessity very soon become intolerably offensive. The trenches should therefore be made without any further delay, and a continuous watch kept that they are resorted to by all.

7. The excremental matter that has already accumulated on the surface of the soil, chiefly near the banks of the *khall*, should be carefully covered with earth. There can be no difficulty in doing this. If all the *mehters* are set to work, it will be accomplished within a very few hours. This is a point of considerable importance, and it demands immediate attention.

8. When the trenches are in regular use, a certain number of *mehters* must go there at least four or five times in 24 hours, and effectually cover the ordure with earth. All ashes available in camp should be deposited in the trenches.

9. Policemen should be posted night and day near the trenches to make sure that they are resorted to, and that the people go nowhere else.

10. After the fair has passed over, care should be taken that cultivation is carried out on the lines of the trenches.

11. The sweeping and general scavenging of the camp is, I believe, attended to at stated hours. Parts of the fair might perhaps be kept cleaner. I allude more particularly to the fish bazar and the places immediately around it.

12. As much of the rubbish of the camp as possible might be burnt at a considerable distance; the ashes being deposited in the trenches.

13. I believe all the people in the boats have been ordered for necessary purposes to visit the places marked off. It is of the utmost importance that this matter should be continually looked to, otherwise the water of the river, which is necessarily drunk by all, must become dangerously polluted.

14. A small patrol of police should be incessantly looking to the preservation of cleanliness and the prevention of nuisances around the boats.

15. Decaying weeds are to be found on the edges of the river. These could easily be removed and burnt in the rear of the camp.

16. The *khall* at the southern end of encampment which leads to the *Megna* (in the direction of Moonsheegunge) is at present blocked up for a considerable distance at its river end by small dirty boats, in which the gipsy class live. The atmosphere seemed to me less pure there than elsewhere. The boats, which at present remain there, should be turned out of the *khall* into the river, the mere transit through the *khall* being of course left uninterfered with. No hardship can attach to such an arrangement.

17. Cleanliness in the vicinity of the *khall* should be continually looked to and enforced.

18. A particular quarter of the encampment is taken up by public prostitutes. I was informed that about 60 women are there. I visited this part; perfect order seemed to prevail. Bearing in mind that venereal disease occurs to a great degree in Dacca itself—whence most

of these women have gone—it seems very desirable that enquiry should be made as to whether any of those in the camp are diseased. The police could probably indirectly gain information on this point. All infected women should, if possible, be removed.

It is to be remembered that thousands of men at the fair come from, remote parts of the country where no proper medical treatment is obtainable; and if they take syphilis from the camp, the infection is liable to spread to a terrible extent throughout distant village populations.

19. I visited with Dr. Buckle the camp hospital which is at the extreme eastern end of the camp, separated from it by the *khall*.

This establishment is on the smallest possible scale. It consists of one small hut capable of accommodating two patients. Two men suffering from cholera were found there at the time of our visit.

A second similar hut is being constructed for Mahomedans. There is one native doctor. He is by himself, there being no compounder or dresser. The hospital establishment consists of a cook and a sweeper.

20. The hospital arrangements appear to me to be on much too small a scale. The population at the fair is, I believe, at present something like 20,000 souls, and, as noted above, the hospital consists of a hut for two persons (which is now occupied)—a second hut for two more persons being in course of construction.

21. At any time, out of so large a gathering, 10, 20, or even a larger number of cholera cases might be brought for treatment, and there is at present no means whatever for meeting any such contingency. The hospital accommodation should be much increased. I presume to suggest that you might, with advantage, consult Dr. Buckle and Dr. Cutcliffe on this subject.

22. Another native doctor is, I believe, expected shortly. With Dr. Buckle's approval, I think he should be located near the centre of the camp, and he might do good service by continually moving about distributing medicines and keeping a diary of his work.

23. It would be much to the advantage of the sick if certain creature-comforts were supplied from local funds for the patients in hospital. Thus men attacked with, or recovering from, cholera, require soups or similar nourishing food. Were a few pigeons and goats supplied, this want would at once be met.

24. I think it would be well if particular conspicuous marks could be placed showing where cholera cases had occurred in camp. A high bamboo pole, with a flag or streamer attached to it (or something of this sort) might be made to indicate, even from a distance, the parts of the camp where the disease had appeared. The vicinity of such localities should engage special sanitary interest and supervision.

25. The clothes and bedding of all cholera patients should be very carefully destroyed by fire.

26. The evacuations of those suffering from the disease demand the most especial attention. A solution of carbolic acid, or of the permanganate of potash, should be at once poured over every evacuation, which should then (without delay) be removed to a distance, and carefully buried on the highest and driest spot of ground available.

27. The excretions might be carried from the hospital in earthen *ghurrahs*, and these, after being cleared of their contents, might be subjected to the action of fire. A single individual might easily see to all this, and there is no more important precaution connected with the sanitary regulation of the camp. The sweeper engaged in this work should be looked after by the police.

28. Cholera patients should be ordered to be very careful where they perform their ablutions immediately on recovery. Instead of permitting them to go and bathe at once in the river, arrangements might be made for water being brought from the river to a particular place at a safe distance, where they could perfectly cleanse their bodies at least once or twice. I do not myself believe in the direct contagiousness of cholera, but as many medical men of wide experience entertain a different opinion, it is only right that every reasonable precaution should be adopted.

29. With this object in view, I am of opinion that every individual who is known to have suffered from cholera should, after recovery, be kept under observation for at least three days, and that he should then be sent away from the fair. In this manner the possible chances of extension of the disease will be reduced to a minimum.

30. Lastly, I have to request the favor of your being good enough to obtain for me exact information regarding the personal history and antecedents of the four cholera cases which have already occurred in camp.

B

Explanatory Notification (issued by the Magistrate.)

1. THE object of the rules laid down for persons frequenting the Baronee *mela* seems to be somewhat misunderstood. There is no desire to repress trade or to drive people from the fair: on the contrary the Sircar is anxious that the fair should take place, if this can be without causing danger to the public health. Cholera is already prevailing in the camp, and a few deaths have occurred. It is feared that many more persons may die, unless careful and strict

rules are passed regarding general cleanliness and ventilation. So long as the air and water can be preserved unpolluted, the chances are that cholera will not prevail to a great degree. It is therefore absolutely necessary to enforce exact rules with reference to the habits of every individual in camp.

2. The main roads through the camp have purposely been laid out on a broad plan, that all may have plenty of fresh air. These roads must on no account be encroached upon by individual shop-keepers. Each shop-keeper has hired ground, which is his own property for the time being. He has not paid for the road, and he must not carry on his trade on the road, but must keep it within his own premises. The roads are exclusively for public convenience. If one man is allowed to put down a mat and to erect a verandah, on the same principle another individual would set up a second encroachment on the road, and so the public highway would very soon become a mere footpath. The main streets must remain as they are now, and any person infringing this rule by encroaching on them will be fined.

3. The privy arrangements are of still greater importance. There is no doubt that individuals must be a little inconvenienced by having to go some 200 yards to the rear of camp for the calls of nature. But if this rule is not enforced, the immediate surroundings of the camp must become very dirty and pestilential. On this account every person in camp must strictly obey the orders which have already been laid down. If the people will accustom their minds to strict obedience to these rules, they will soon understand the real benefit they each and all derive therefrom, and will cease to feel them burdensome.

Dacca,
The 4th December 1869. }

G. GRAHAM,
Officiating Magistrate.

C

A.—INFORMATION AND RULES FOR THE PEOPLE.

1. EVERY one must carefully attend to the preservation of general cleanliness in camp.
2. Any person detected fouling the ground around his dwelling will be fined.
3. The calls of nature must be obeyed at least 200 yards from the encampment. Particular marks indicate the localities set apart for such purposes.
4. Trenches have been dug, and all must resort to them or go to the opposite side of the river.
5. The river must on no account be defiled. Persons found infringing this rule will at once be punished.
6. The refuse of each dwelling must be placed, morning and evening, in front of the said dwelling, in a conspicuous place, whence the sweepers can regularly and easily remove it.
7. When any person is seized with cholera, or any other serious illness, information should at once be given to the police; and the patient should, with as little delay as possible, be taken to hospital. This is very important.
8. All persons who may suffer from diarrhoea should immediately supply for medical relief, either at the hospital or at the police thannah.
9. The hospital is open for the reception of patients at all hours of the day and night; and persons going there will be carefully and kindly treated without any charge.
10. All should guard against exposure to night dews.
11. Unripe fruits and bad vegetables predispose to cholera.
12. Stale fish or any unwholesome diet should be carefully avoided.
13. Bad air and over-crowding are very apt to induce the disease.
14. When a man is seized with cholera his evacuations should, as soon as possible, be covered with earth; and after his recovery his clothes should, if possible, be destroyed. Neglect of this rule is liable to spread the disease to other people.
15. Fresh air, good water, cleanliness and wholesome diet are the great safeguards against cholera.
16. Let all endeavour to keep the whole camp as clean as possible.

Officiating Magistrate.

এ

বাকগীমেলাগত ব্যক্তিদিগের নিমিত্ত নিয়মাবলী।

- ১। প্রত্যেকেই সাবধানতাসহকারে বাকগীর সাধারণ পরিস্ফুটিকার্য মনোযোগী হইবে।
- ২। কোন ব্যক্তি তাহার বাসস্থানের পার্শ্ববর্ত্তি স্থান অপরিচ্ছন্ন করিলে দণ্ডনীয় হইবে।
- ৩। মেলা স্থান হইতে অন্ত্যন ২০০ চুইশত গজ দূরে মলমূত্র পরিত্যাগ করিতে হইবে। এই প্রকার কার্যের নিমিত্ত যে সকল স্থান নির্দিষ্ট হইয়াছে, বিশেষ চিহ্নদ্বারা সেই সকল স্থান চিনিতে পারা যায়।
- ৪। যে সকল গর্ত্ত খনন করা হইয়াছে, সকলেই সেই সকল গর্ত্তে মলমূত্র ত্যাগ করিবে। অন্যথা নদীর অপার পারে বাইতে হইবে।

৫। নদীতে কেহ মলমুত্রাদি ত্যাগ করিতে পারিবে না। যে কেহ এই নিয়মের অন্যথাচরণ করে, তাহাকে তৎক্ষণাৎ দণ্ডিত হইতে হইবে।

৬। প্রত্যেক বাসার আবর্জনা সকালে এবং বিকালে বাসার বাহিরে এমন প্রকাশ্য স্থলে রাখিতে হইবে যে, মেথরগণ অন্যাসে নিয়মিতরূপে তাহা লইয়া যাইতে পারে।

৭। কোন লোকের ওলাউঠা বা অন্য কোন গুরুতর পীড়া হইলে, তৎক্ষণাৎ পুলিশে তাহার সংবাদ দিতে হইবে এবং যত শীঘ্র হইতে পারে রোগীকে হস্পিটালে লইয়া যাইতে হইবে। এই বিষয়টা নিতান্তই গুরুতর।

৮। যে সকল লোকের সামান্য উদরের পীড়া হয়, তাহার তৎক্ষণাৎ হস্পিটালে অথবা থানার যাইয়া ডাক্তরের সাহায্য চাহিবে।

৯। হস্পিটাল দিবারাত্রি সকল সময়েই রোগীর জন্য খোলা থাকিবে। যে সকল রোগী তথায় যাইবে, তাহাদিগকে সাবধানতা ও দয়ার সহিত চিকিৎসা ও শুশ্রূষা করা হইবে। রোগীদিগের কোন ব্যয় দিতে হইবে না।

১০। সকলেরই এরূপ সাবধান থাকা উচিত যে রাত্রিকালের শিশির শরীরে না লাগিতে পারে।

১১। কাঁচা ফল এবং মন্দ তরকারি ওলাউঠার অন্যতর কারণ।

১২। পচা মাছ অথবা অন্য কোন অস্বাস্থ্যকর খাদ্যদ্রব্য যত্নপূর্বক পরিত্যাগ করিতে হইবে।

১৩। মন্দ বাতাস এবং অধিক লোকের একত্র বাসে প্রায়ই ওলাউঠা হইয়া থাকে।

১৪। কোন লোকের ওলাউঠা হইলে যত শীঘ্র হইতে পারে তাহার মল মুত্রাদি মৃত্তিকা দ্বারা ঢাকিতে হইবে এবং তাহার আরোগ্যের পর তাহার পরিধেয় বস্ত্রগুলি (সম্ভব হইলে) একবারে পরিত্যাগ করিতে হইবে। এনিয়মের অন্যথা করিলে রোগ বিস্তৃত হওয়ার সম্ভাবনা।

১৫। ভাল বাতাস, উত্তম জল, পরিষ্কৃত স্থান এবং স্বাস্থ্যকর খাদ্য দ্রব্য ব্যবহার ওলাউঠা না হওয়ার বিশেষ উপায়।

১৬। মেলার সমুদায় স্থান যাহাতে উত্তম রূপে পরিষ্কৃত থাকে সকলেরই তদ্বিষয়ে যত্ন করা কর্তব্য।

ডাকার মাজিষ্ট্রেট—

D

B.—NOTICE FOR THE INFORMATION OF THE POLICE.

1. The police must carefully prevent all defilement of the camp.
2. Persons committing nuisances in the immediate vicinity of the dwellings must be brought before the magistrate.
3. The police must take care that every person in camp resorts, for the calls of nature, to the ground marked off for that purpose, and that he makes use of the trenches there prepared.
4. Particular watch must be kept around the boats, to see that the boatmen do not defile the river. For necessary purposes they must either go to the chur on the opposite side of the river, or to the ground marked off for the people of the camp.
5. Constables and mehters must be specially told off to see to the cleanliness of the ground around the trenches. They must be held strictly responsible for any breach of the rules laid down for the guidance of the people.
6. The night-soil in the trenches must be effectually covered with earth by the mehters, at least, once every three hours.
7. The weeds and vegetable matter brought by the tide to the edge of the river must be daily removed, and burnt in the rear of the camp, at a safe distance.
8. It will be the duty of the police to make generally known, amongst the people, the rules and instructions which have been prepared for their guidance.
9. It will also be their duty carefully to warn people who are seized with cholera or suffering from diarrhoea to apply, without delay, for relief; and to assist them in getting to the hospital.
10. The police should be continually making rounds, and reporting every thing that is liable to injure public health. It is strictly against orders that any one, whether rich or poor should have his own private privy. Were this allowed, with existing scarcity of mehters, general cleanliness could not possibly be maintained.
11. Wherever a case of cholera occurs, a conspicuous mark (such as a white flag of a particular shape attached to the end of a long upright bamboo erected in front of the dwelling where the individual was seized) must be made to indicate the place.
12. A very important duty of the police will be to get all possible information regarding the personal history of each individual who is seized with cholera.
13. The following points will serve as a guide to the necessary enquiry under this head :—
 - a. The name, age, and occupation of the patient.
 - b. His place of residence.
 - c. At what time exactly was he attacked?
 - d. How long had he been at the fair before being attacked?

- e. How long was he ill before being treated?
- f. Was cholera prevailing at the place he came from?
- g. Is any individual known to have died with whom he associated between leaving his home and arriving at the fair? Particulars.
- h. Can any clue to the cause of his attack be traced.
- i. Has any case occurred in the vicinity of where he was attacked? If so, give careful particulars.
- j. Very careful inquiry should be made to determine whether or not the disease appears to have spread by the inter-communication of individuals.

Officiating Magistrate.

বি

পুলিসের অবগতির লিমিত্ত বিজ্ঞাপন।

- ১। পুলিস সারধানতাসহকারে বাকণী স্থানের অপরিষ্কৃতি নিবারণ করিবে।
- ২। যে সকল লোক তাহাদিগের বাসার অব্যবহিত নিকটবর্ত্তি স্থানে মলমূত্রাদি পরিত্যাগ করে, তাহাদিগকে মাজিষ্ট্রেটের নিকট আনয়ন করিতে হইবে।
- ৩। পুলিস দৃষ্টি রাখিবে যে মেলাগত প্রত্যেক ব্যক্তি মলমূত্র পরিত্যাগ জন্য নির্দিষ্ট স্থানে যায় এবং সেই স্থানে যে সকল গর্ত্ত করা হইয়াছে তাহাই প্রত্যেক ব্যক্তি ব্যবহার করে।
- ৪। নৌকার লোকেরা নদীতে মলমূত্র পরিত্যাগ না করে এই জন্য নৌকার প্রতি পুলিসের বিশেষ দৃষ্টি রাখিতে হইবে। মলমূত্র পরিত্যাগ জন্য হয় তাহার নদীর অপর পারে চরের মধ্যে যাইবে, অথবা মেলার লোকের জন্য যে স্থান নির্দিষ্ট করা হইয়াছে সেই স্থানেই যাইবে।
- ৫। কনফেবল এবং মেথরদিগকে বিশেষ করিয়া বলিয়া দিতে হইবে যে উল্লিখিত গর্ত্ত সকলের চতুঃপাশ্চাত্ত স্থান পরিষ্কৃত রাখে। মেলাগত লোকদিগের জন্য যে সকল নিয়ম করা গেল সেই লকল নিয়মের যে কোন অন্যথাচরণ হউক তাহার জন্যই কনফেবল এবং মেথরগণ বিশেষরূপে দায়ী থাকিবে।
- ৬। অনধিক ছয় ঘণ্টার মধ্যে গর্ত্তের ময়লা মৃত্তিকার দ্বারা সুন্দররূপে ঢাকিয়া দিতে হইবে।
- ৭। শ্রোতোবেগে যে সকল ঘাস ও জঙ্গল ইত্যাদি নদীর তীরে আগত হয়, তাহা প্রত্যহ উঠাইয়া লইয়া মেলা স্থানের অনেক দূরে যাইয়া জ্বালাইতে হইবে।
- ৮। লোকদিগের জন্য যে সকল নিয়ম করা হইয়াছে, সেই সকল নিয়ম সাধারণকে জ্ঞাত করাও পুলিসের কর্ত্তব্য হইবে।
- ৯। কেহ ওলাউঠা বা উন্নরের পীড়াক্রান্ত হইলে তাহাকে হস্পিটালে যাওয়ার জন্য পুলিস বলিবে এবং তাহাকে হস্পিটালে নেওয়ার সহায়তা করিবে।
- ১০। পুলিস সর্বদা মেলার সর্বত্র ঘুরিয়া বেড়াইবে, এবং সাধারণের অস্বাস্থ্যের কোন কারণ দেখিলে রিপোর্ট করিবে। বড় মানুষ কি গরিব কাহারই নিজের পৃথক পায়খানা থাকিবে না। কারণ মেথর এত অল্প যে ঐরূপ করিতে দিলে সকল স্থানের পরিষ্কৃতি রক্ষা পাইতে পারে না।
- ১১। কোন স্থানে ওলাউঠা হইলে, সেই স্থানের নিকটে একটি বাঁশের অগ্রভাগে একটি বিশেষ আকৃতির নিশানদ্বারা ঐ স্থানের পরিচয় দিতে হইবে।
- ১২। যে লোকের ওলাউঠা হইবে, সেই লোকের আবুপূর্ব্বিক অবস্থা জানা পুলিসের একটি বিশেষ কর্ত্তব্য কর্ম্ম।
- ১৩। ঐরূপ অবস্থা জানিবার লিমিত্ত নিম্নলিখিত বিগয়গুলির প্রতি দৃষ্টি রাখিতে হইবে।
 - (ক) রোগির নাম, বয়স এবং ব্যবসায়।
 - (খ) তাহার বাসস্থান।
 - (গ) ঠিক কোন সময়ে তাহার ওলাউঠা হইয়াছিল।
 - (ঘ) ওলাউঠা হওয়ার পূর্বে সে কত কাল বাকণীতে ছিল।
 - (ঙ) ওলাউঠা হইয়া কতক্ষণ পর্যন্ত সে অচিকিৎসায় ছিল।
 - (চ) সে যে স্থানহইতে আসিয়াছে সেখানে তখন ওলাউঠা ছিল কি না।
 - (ছ) সে বাড়িহইতে গমন করিয়া বাকণীতে আসা পর্যন্ত এমন কোন লোকের সহিত সংসর্গ করিয়াছিল কি না, যাহার ওলাউঠাতে মৃত্যু হইয়াছে। এতৎসম্বন্ধীয় বিশেষ বিবরণ আবশ্যিক।
 - (জ) তাহার ওলাউঠা হওয়ার কোন কারণ জানা যাইতে পারে কি না।
 - (ঝ) যে স্থানে তাহার পীড়া হইয়াছে, তাহার নিকটবর্ত্তি কোন স্থানে কাহারো ওলাউঠা হইয়াছিল কি না। যদি হইয়া থাকে, তবে তাহার সঠিক বিবরণ দাও।
 - (ঞ) রোগাক্রান্ত লোক বাকণীতে আসাতে রোগ বিস্তৃত হয় কি না, সেইটাই বিশেষ সতর্কতা সহকারে অনুসন্ধান করিতে হইবে।

ডাকার মাজিষ্ট্রেট।

E
Table of cholera cases at the Baranee mela of 1869.

Number.	Name.	Age.	A.		Occupation.	B.	C.	D.	E.	F.	RESULTS.
			Sex.								
1	Shumbhoo Nath Shaha	19	Male	...	Merchant	Abdoolahpore, (Sylhet)	22nd Nov., 2 A.M.	8 days	16 hours.	No	Died 1st December, at 2 A.M.
2	Jankee	50	Female	...	Prostitute	Barokhally, (Dacca)	22nd " 8 P.M.	4 "	12 "	"	Died 23rd Nov., at 9 A.M.
3	Sheikh Gosie	40	Male	...	Farmer	Sonarchur, (Tipperah)	23rd " 8 A.M.	1 day	8 "	"	Died 23rd Nov., at 10 P.M.
4	Autul Beharee	30	"	...	Beggar	Kookotya, (Dacca)	24th " 9 A.M.	Attacked immediately on arrival.	5 "	"	Discharged recovered, 27th November.
5	Nusseerooddin	26	"	...	Shop-keeper	Janjeerab, "	26th " 8 P.M.	6 days	6 "	Yes, he came from Dacca.	Went to Calcutta and thence to Odtingee where he stayed 12 days; thence to Dacca for one night, and on to the fair. He had fever two days before the cholera. Discharged 2nd December.
6	Asookhalli	39	"	...	Menial servant	Dacca town	27th " 8 A.M.	Ditto	3 "	Ditto	Died 28th Nov., at 5 P.M.
7	Kumal Kaisto	33	"	...	Ditto	Baroodce, (Dacca)	4th Dec. 5 P.M.	10 days	Not treated at all.	Ditto	The people in whose shop he was employed know nothing of the illness: he was found dead in the shop at 5-30 A.M., 5th Dec. Progressing favorably (recovered).
8	Nursing Kaiburto	50	"	...	Mangee	Kakmaree (Mymensing)	16th " 7 P.M.	2 or 3 hours	3 or 4 hours.	No	

1. To the questions g. h. and i no answers have been given.

2. The police report that "it appears that the disease has spread by inter-communication with the Dacca people, where cholera was prevailing before the fair commenced."

3. A constable, Poran Singh, of Mymensing, was attacked in his boat before reaching the fair, and was sent to Mounshesgrunge jail hospital. He never came to the fair. Died 16th November 1869.

4. An amlah of the late magistrate died of cholera in a village near the fair.

F.

Return showing the number of cholera cases admitted, cured, discharged, and fatal, from 7th November to 21st December 1869.

Date of admission.	Diseases.	Remained.	Admitted.	Total.	RESULT.			REMARKS.
					Cured.	Died.	Remaining.	
1869.								
7th November	Cholera	..	1	1	..	..	1	
8th "	Ditto	1	..	1	..	..	1	
9th "	Ditto	1	1	2	..	1	1	
10th "	Ditto	1	3	4	..	1	3	
11th "	Ditto	3	4	7	1	..	6	
12th "	Ditto	6	1	7	..	..	7	
13th "	Ditto	7	5	12	..	4	8	
14th "	Ditto	8	4	12	1	1	10	
15th "	Ditto	10	..	10	..	1	9	
16th "	Ditto	9	..	9	..	..	9	
17th "	Ditto	9	..	9	1	..	8	
18th "	Ditto	8	..	8	1	..	7	
19th "	Ditto	7	..	7	2	..	5	
20th "	Ditto	5	..	5	3	..	2	
21st "	Ditto	2	..	2	..	..	2	
22nd "	Ditto	2	1	3	1	..	2	
23rd "	Ditto	2	..	2	..	..	2	
24th "	Ditto	2	..	2	..	..	2	
25th "	Ditto	2	..	2	..	1	1	
26th "	Ditto	1	1	2	..	1	1	
27th "	Ditto	1	3	4	..	1	3	
28th "	Ditto	3	..	3	1	..	2	
29th "	Ditto	2	1	3	1	..	2	
30th "	Ditto	2	4	6	..	2	4	
1st December	Ditto	4	..	4	1	..	3	
2nd "	Ditto	3	..	3	..	..	3	
3rd "	Ditto	3	1	4	1	..	3	
4th "	Ditto	3	..	3	1	..	2	
5th "	Ditto	2	1	3	..	..	3	
6th "	Ditto	3	2	5	..	1	4	
7th "	Ditto	4	..	4	1	..	3	
8th "	Ditto	3	..	3	1	..	2	
9th "	Ditto	2	..	2	..	..	2	
10th "	Ditto	2	..	2	2	..	..
11th "	Ditto	..	..	..	..	..	..
12th "	Ditto	..	..	..	..	..	..
13th "	Ditto	..	..	..	..	..	..
14th "	Ditto	..	..	..	..	..	..
15th "	Ditto	..	..	..	..	..	..
16th "	Ditto	..	..	..	..	..	..
17th "	Ditto	..	..	..	..	..	..
18th "	Ditto	..	..	..	..	..	..
19th "	Ditto	..	..	..	..	..	..
20th "	Ditto	..	..	..	..	..	..
21st "	Ditto	..	1	1	..	..	1	Admitted into the police hospital.
Total ..		..	34	..	19	14	1	

DACCA MITFORD HOSPITAL,
The 2nd December 1869. }

GOPAL CHUNDER PATTUCK,
Sub-Assistant Surgeon.

Meteorological Telegraphic Report for the period 29th Jan. to 4th Feb. 1870.

STATIONS.	Date.	Hour.	Barometer reduced to 32°.	THERMOMETER.		Humidity Sat. = 100.	WIND.		Rain.	Weather initials.	CLOUDS.
				Dry.	Wet.		Direction.	Velocity.			
	Jan.		Inches.	°	°				Inches.		
CALCUTTA.	29th	10	30.118	69.4	59.5	51	W N W	...	...	b	
	18	16	29.962	77.2	61.2	34	W by N	...	...	...	C
	30th	10	30.100	68.5	60.4	60	S W	...	...	...	C
	18	16	29.950	76.8	62.0	38	W by N	...	...	...	C, CS
	31st	10	30.047	68.0	60.0	60	W by N	...	...	...	CS
	Feb.	18	29.897	77.2	61.4	36	W N W	...	...	...	C
	1st	10	30.049	70.5	61.0	55	N N W	...	...	b	
	16	16	29.879	79.2	63.0	33	W	...	...	...	C
	2nd	10	29.932	72.0	63.4	59	S S W	...	...	b	
	16	16	29.814	81.0	65.0	38	S S W	...	...	b	
	3rd	10	29.890	74.5	68.5	72	S by W	...	...	b	
	18	16	29.760	83.5	72.2	54	S	...	...	b	
SAUGOR ISLAND.	4th	10	29.899	72	69	85	S by W	...	...	...	Scuds from S by W
	16	16	29.750	85	72.4	52	S by W	...	...	b	
	Jan.	29th	10	30.129	73	64	E N E	1	...	b m	
	18	16	29.988	79	64	40	N	1	...	b	S
	30th	10	30.102	72	64	62	N N E	1	...	b	C
	16	16	29.954	79	64	40	E	2	...	b m	C, CK
	31st	10	30.045	73	63	54	N N E	1	...	b m	C
	Feb.	16	29.918	89	64	37	N N E	1	...	b m	C
	1st	10	30.041	72	68	71	N W	1	...	b m	
	16	16	29.907	78	69	61	W	1	...	b m	C
	2nd	10	29.980	73	71	90	N W	1	...	b m	
	16	16	29.847	78	71	69	S W	2	...	b	C
CHITTAGONG.	3rd	10	29.926	77	73	81	W N W	3	...	b	K
	16	16	29.787	79	74	77	S W	2	...	b m	K
	4th	10	29.927	76	73	86	W S W	3	...	b	CK
	16	16	29.794	79	76	86	S W	3	...	b m	K
	Jan.	29th	10	29.948	74	63	N N W	5.3*	...	b m	
	18	16	29.839	76	62	41	W	9.8*	...	b m	
	30th	10	29.943	71	62	57	N N W	4.7*	...	b m	
	16	16	29.829	80	63	34	W	7.8*	...	b m	CS
	31st	10	29.883	71	61	53	N N W	4.1*	...	b m	
	Feb.	16	29.780	75	65	55	W	7.9*	...	b m	CS
	1st	10	29.888	73	64	58	N	4.9*	...	b m	
	16	16	29.760	75	67	63	W S W	8*	...	b m	
MADRAS.	2nd	10	29.814	75	66	59	N N W	3.4*	...	b m	C
	16	16	29.748	75	65	55	S W	8.1*	...	b m	
	3rd	10	29.835	78	65	46	N N W	3.0*	...	b m	
	16	16	29.736	75	66	59	W S W	9.1*	...	b m	
	4th	10	29.822	75	67	63	N N W	4.4*	...	b m	
	16	16	29.726	76	68	64	S W	6.0*	...	b m	
	Jan.	29th	10	30.080	81	69	N E by N	12*	...	b	C
	18	16	29.951	81	70	55	N N E	10*	...	b	C
	30th	10	30.033	79	68	64	N N E	12*	...	b	C
	16	16	29.916	81	70	55	N N E	13*	...	b	C
	31st	10	30.003	79	69	68	E S E	6*	...	b	C
	Feb.	16	29.901	80	69	64	N N E	11*	...	b	C
CUTTACK.	1st	10	30.012	81	71	59	N E	5*	...	b	
	16	16	29.861	81	71	59	N E	8*	...	b	
	2nd	10	29.977	80	70	58	N E	3*	...	b	
	16	16	29.956	81	71	59	N E by E	8*	...	b	
	3rd	10	29.952P	80	71	62	N E	3*	...	b	
	16	16	29.823	81	70	55	E N E	6*	...	b c	
	4th	10	29.946	79	70	61	N E by E	5*	...	b c	
	16	16	29.826	80	71	62	E N E	9*	...	b c	
	Jan.	29th	10	30.087	70	65	N W	6.9*	...	b m	
	18	16	29.940	78	64	42	W by N	10.0*	...	m	C
	30th	10	30.037	71	64	66	E	4.2*	...	m	C
	16	16	29.890	79	64	40	N W	4.8*	...	m	C
AKYAB.	31st	10	30.005	71	65	70	N W	4.2*	...	m	C
	Feb.	16	29.868	78	63	39	N W	11.5*	...	m	C
	1st	10	29.997	70	65	75	W	6.3*	...	b m	
	16	16	29.846	78	61	32	W	7.6*	...	b	
	2nd	10	29.935	71	65	70	W	8.2*	...	f m	C
	16	16	29.799	78	62	35	W by S	7*	...	...	C
	3rd	10	29.832	73	64	58	E	8.2*	...	m	C
	16	16	29.748	82	68	45	N W	8.2*	...	m	CS
	Jan.	29th	10	30.063	68	61	N W	1	...	g	C, CS
	18	16	29.981	76	65	52	N W	1	...	b	C, CS
	30th	10	30.057	70	61	57	N E	1	...	b	
	16	16	29.889	77	65	49	N W	1	...	b	CK

* Velocity of wind in miles per hour.

CALCUTTA,
The 5th February 1870.HENRY F. BLANFORD,
Meteorological Reporter to the Govt. of Bengal.

Weekly Report of Rainfall compiled at the Meteorological Reporter's Office.

CIRCUIT.		Rain from 17th to 23rd Jan. 1870.	to Rain from 24th to 30th Jan. 1870.	RAIN FROM 1ST JANUARY 1870.		REMARKS.
				Rain.	Up to date.	
		Inch.	Inch.	Inch.		
SOUTH-WESTERN.	Pooree ...	Nil	Not received	Nil	23rd Jan. 1870.	
	False Point ...	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
	Cuttack { Telegraph Office	1.00	Nil	1.00	30th Jan. 1870.	
	{ Jail ...	1.05	Not received	1.05	23rd Jan. 1870.	
	Sumbulpore ...	3.30	ditto	3.30	ditto.	
WESTERN.	Balasore ...	1.18	ditto	1.18	ditto.	
	Midnapore ...	0.90	Not received.	0.90	23rd Jan. 1870.	
	Bancoorah ...	0.35	ditto	0.35	ditto.	
	Chyebasaa ...	1.50	ditto	1.50	ditto.	
	Purulia ...	0.87	Nil	0.87	30th Jan. 1870.	
CENTRAL.	Burdwan ...	0.20	Not received	0.20	23rd Jan. 1870.	
	Raneegunge ...	0.15	Nil	0.15	30th Jan. 1870.	
	Sooree ...	Not received	Not received	....	....
	Deoghur ...	0.40	Nil	0.40	30th Jan. 1870.	
	Burhee ...	0.45	ditto	0.45	ditto.	
NORTH-WESTERN.	Hazareebaugh ...	0.10	Not received	0.10	23rd Jan. 1870.	
	Saugor Island ...	Nil	Nil	Nil	30th Jan. 1870.	
	Contai ...	ditto	Not received	ditto	ditto.	
	Calcutta ...	0.77	Nil	0.77	ditto.	
	Howrah ...	1.42	ditto	1.42	ditto.	
NORTHERN.	Hooghly { Jail ...	1.00	ditto	1.00	ditto.	
	{ College ...	Not received	Not received	....	....
	Jessore ...	0.20	Nil	0.20	30th Jan. 1870.	
	Berhampore ...	Not received	Not received	Nil	16th Jan. 1870.	
	Furzedpore ...	Nil	ditto	ditto	23rd Jan. 1870.	
NORTH-EASTERN.	Barriaul ...	Not received	ditto	....	....
	Kishnagur ...	ditto	ditto	....	....
	Bhaugulpore ...	0.50	Not received	0.50	23rd Jan. 1870.	
	Monghyr ...	0.16	ditto	0.16	ditto ...	Not received 3rd January.
	Patna ...	0.01	Nil	0.01	30th Jan. 1870.	
EASTERN.	Arrah ...	Nil	ditto	Nil	ditto.	
	Buxar ...	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
	Chuprah ...	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
	Chumpan ...	ditto	Not received	ditto	23rd Jan. 1870.	
	Benares ...	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
SOUTH-EASTERN.	Rampore Beaulah ...	Nil	Not received	Nil	23rd Jan. 1870.	
	Pubna ...	ditto	Nil	ditto	30th Jan. 1870.	
	Maldah ...	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
	Bograh ...	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto ...	Not received 1st to 9th Jan.
	Dinapore ...	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
	Rungpore ...	Not received	ditto	ditto	ditto ...	Not received from 10th to 23rd January.
	Julpigoree ...	Nil	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
	Buxa ...	Not received	Not received	....	....
	Darjeeling ...	Nil	ditto	Nil	23rd Jan. 1870.	
	Gowalparah ...	Nil	Not received	Nil	23rd Jan. 1870.	
	Gowhaty ...	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto ...	Not received 10th to 16th Jan.
	Shillong ...	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
	Nowgong ...	Not received	ditto	....	....
	Tezpor ...	ditto	ditto	Nil	16th Jan. 1870.	
	Dholebagaun ...	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
	Seesaugor ...	Nil	ditto	ditto	23rd Jan. 1870.	
	Debrooghur ...	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto ...	Not received 1st to 9th Jan.
	Samoooodting ...	Not received	ditto	ditto	16th Jan. 1870.	
	Cherra Poonjee ...	ditto	ditto	....	....
	Dacca ...	Nil	Not received	Nil	23rd Jan. 1870 ...	Not received 10th to 16th Jan.
	Mymensing ...	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
	Sylhet ...	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
	Cachar ...	Not received	ditto	ditto	16th Jan. 1870.	
	Aenakhall Hylakandy ...	0.01	ditto	0.01	23rd Jan. 1870.	
	Tipperah ...	0.10	ditto	0.10	ditto.	
	Noakhally ...	Nil	ditto	Nil	ditto.	
	Chitta- { Telegraph Office	ditto	Nil	ditto	30th Jan. 1870.	
	{ Jail ...	ditto	Not received	ditto	23rd Jan. 1870.	
	Rangamata Hill ...	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
	Akyab ...	....	....	....	....

CALCUTTA,
The 5th February 1870.

HENRY F. BLANFORD,
Meteorological Reporter to the Govt. of Bengal.

Results of the Meteorological Observations taken at the Surveyor-General's Office, Calcutta, from 1st to 7th February 1870.

MONTH.	Date.	Mean reduced Barometer.	THERMOMETER.		Max. Solar radiation, Thermometer.	Mean Dry Bulb.	Mean Wet Bulb.	Computed Mean Dew-point.	Mean Degree of Humidity.	WIND.			Rain.	GENERAL REMARKS.
			Highest Reading.	Lowest Reading.						Prevailing direction.	Max. pressure.	Daily velocity.		
		Inches.	°	°	°	°	°	°			lb	Miles.	Inches.	
Feb.	1st	29.943	80.2	57.6	117.8	68.5	60.0	53.2	0.60	W	...	80.4	...	Clear and cirri. Slightly foggy at 9 & 10 P.M.
	2nd	879	81.9	60.0	119.5	70.0	62.0	55.6	.62	S S W & S	...	87.3	...	Clear.
	3rd	822	85.6	63.5	123.3	73.0	67.3	62.7	.72	S	...	156.0	...	Clear. Foggy from 4 to 7 A.M.
	4th	808	86.3	65.0	123.7	74.0	69.2	65.8	.77	S & S by E	...	140.7	...	Chiefly clear.
	5th	779	86.8	68.4	126.2	76.2	69.1	64.1	.67	S S W, S W & S by E	...	211.0	...	Clear & cirrocumuli.
	6th	833	85.5	66.5	124.8	75.2	67.3	61.8	.65	W S W	...	136.2	...	Clear. Slightly foggy from 2 to 6 A.M., & at 8 & 9 P.M.
	7th	845	85.3	63.7	127.0	73.8	64.0	57.1	.58	N N W & S S W	...	76.2	...	Clear. Slightly foggy from 7 to 10 P.M.

The mean Barometer, as likewise the Dry and Wet Bulb Thermometer means, are derived from the twenty-four hourly observations made during the day.

The Dew-point is computed with the Greenwich constants.—The figures in column ten represent the humidity of the air, the complete saturation of which being taken at unity.—The receiver of the lower rain gauge is 1½ feet, and that of the Anemometer 70 feet 10 inches above the level of the ground.—The velocity of wind, as indicated by Robinson's Anemometer, is registered from noon to noon.

The extreme variation of temperature during the past seven days	...	29.2
The max. temperature during the past seven days	...	86.8
The max. temperature during the corresponding period of the past year	...	83.0
The mean humidity during the past seven days	...	0.66
The mean humidity during the corresponding period of the past year	...	0.66
		Inches.
The total fall of rain from 1st to 7th	... { by lower rain gauge	Nil
	... { by Anemometer gauge	Nil
Ditto ditto, average of sixteen previous years	...	0.16
Ditto between the 1st January and the 7th current	...	0.77
Ditto ditto, average of 16 years...	...	0.61

Erratum in Calcutta Gazette of the 2nd February, page 66, 30th January, column 3, for '022, read '002.

The 8th February 1870.

GOPELNATH SEN,
In charge of the Observatory.



SUPPLEMENT TO The Calcutta Gazette.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 1870.

OFFICIAL PAPERS.

Non-Subscribers to the GAZETTE may receive the SUPPLEMENT, separately, on a payment of six Rupees per annum if delivered in Calcutta, or twelve Rupees if sent by Post.

Proceedings of the Council of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal for the purpose of making Laws and Regulations.

Wednesday, the 9th February 1870.

Present:

HIS HONOR THE LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR OF BENGAL, *Presiding.*

T. H. COWIE, ESQ., *Advocate-General,*
THE HON'BLE ASHLEY EDEN,
A. MONEY, ESQ., C.B.,
A. R. THOMPSON, ESQ.,
V. H. SCHALCH, ESQ.,
H. H. SUTHERLAND, ESQ.,
RAJAH SATYANUND GHOSAL,

BABOO ISSUR CHUNDER GHOSAL,
BABOO CHUNDER MOHUN CHATTERJEE,
T. M. ROBINSON, ESQ.,
F. F. WYMAN, ESQ.,
AND
BABOO JOTEENDRO MOHUN TAGORE.

CALCUTTA WATER-RATE.

MR. SCHALCH applied to the President to suspend the rules for the conduct of business to enable him to move that the report of the select committee on the Bill to empower the Justices of the Peace for the town of Calcutta to levy a water-rate on the town be taken into consideration in order to the settlement of the clauses of the Bill. He said that according to one of the rules of the council it was necessary that the report of a select committee should be in the hands of hon'ble members one week before the report could be taken into consideration. Practically that had been the case in regard to the present Bill, inasmuch as the report of the committee, with the Bill as proposed to be amended, had been published in the last number of the *Calcutta Gazette*; but he learned that the official copies were not circulated till a later date. Consequently it was necessary for him to ask the President to suspend the rules to enable him to move that the report of the select committee be taken into consideration.

THE PRESIDENT having declared the rules suspended—

MR. SCHALCH said that in the report of the select committee on the Bill the alterations proposed to be made were so distinctly stated that he need not trouble the council with a recapitulation of them; but the reasons on which those amendments were founded were not given. He thought, however, that instead of taking up the time of the council at this stage, it would be sufficient for him to explain the reasons on which the chief amendments were based, when the council came to consider the several clauses of the Bill. He would only now move that the report of the select committee be taken into consideration in order to the settlement of the clauses of the Bill.

BABOO ISSUR CHUNDER GHOSAL said that inasmuch as the select committee to whom the Bill was referred had wandered far out of the legitimate line of their duty in tacking

on new principles to the Bill, which were not asked for by the Justices to enable them to carry on the water-works, he thought that the Bill should therefore be referred back to the select committee for the purpose of their confining themselves to the consideration of the question explained in the letter of the chairman of the Justices of the 18th of January. In altering the principles of the Bill they had gone beyond the application made to the council. The circumstance under which the Bill originated was that owing to an accident the Justices were not in a position to levy a water-rate according to the provisions of Act IX of 1867. An *ad interim* Bill of a few sections only would have been quite sufficient for the purpose, and the Justices through their chairman do not appear to have asked for more. But instead of doing that, advantage had been taken of that circumstance in the select committee to introduce new principles quite at variance with those in force and established by the legislature in previous legislation, and which principles had been discussed threadbare in passing three successive legislative enactments by the council. The committee therefore should have strictly confined themselves to the principles in force and established by the legislature, and not sought to be altered and interfered with by the municipality. But the committee instead of making all harmonize with each other, had imported something quite in discordance with existing legislation. He therefore moved that the Bill be referred back to the select committee with instructions to restrict its provisions in conformity with the application of the chairman of the Justices, dated 18th January 1870, and to report on the same in two weeks.

THE ADVOCATE-GENERAL said that he must oppose the amendment, which had for its object the reference back of the Bill to the select committee, because it appeared to him that it proceeded on a misconception of what the scope and effect of the proposed Bill would be. He could only imagine that the amendment had been proposed on the notion that because the necessity for some measure of the kind involving the immediate imposition of the rate had been rendered necessary in consequence of the peculiar and special circumstances that had arisen, therefore the legislation should only be, as he had seen it called, of an *ad interim* character. He did not think the scope of the Bill could at all be regarded as of that character. It was plain that what we were now going to do, subject to what might be determined on as to the assessment and payment of the rate, was to levy a rate under the provisions of this Act; and the assessment of that rate would be a prominent thing and exclude the operation of those provisions of the Acts of 1863, 1866, and 1867 under which the Justices were to levy the rates leviable by those Acts on the formal completion of the works: and although the immediate reason why this had become the subject of legislation had been the exceptional and incidental circumstances stated, he apprehended it was perfectly clear that the council were now dealing with the whole matter of legislation, and would be stultifying itself if, dealing with the assessment and levying of the rate, they were to consider themselves in any way bound to the mere adaptation, with the smallest minimum amount of modification, of the principles enunciated in the earlier Acts. He was quite open to hear arguments against the principles contained in the present Bill, but it would be premature to say whether we should adopt the principle enunciated by the select committee. He could not see that the committee in any way went beyond their province, and the business of the council now was to consider whether, having regard to the circumstances, they should adhere to the amendments proposed, as being more of a permanent character, in substitution for the provisions of the earlier Acts, and thus deal with the question on its own merits. He therefore thought the original motion should be supported.

MR. SCHALCH said he would also oppose the amendment. The hon'ble member seemed to have taken up the position adopted by the British Indian Association in a recent communication to the council. They seemed there to think that if the council were asked for a legislative enactment of a particular kind, they, the council, were bound to pass an enactment in accordance with the request. The duty of the council, however, was not to act as mere registrars: their first duty was to ascertain whether there were sufficient grounds for legislation, and if they considered that there were such grounds, then it was their duty to legislate on the subject in such a manner as would be most conducive to all interests concerned. It had been said that the committee in what they had done, had proceeded beyond their province. He begged to differ from that opinion. The Bill as proposed to be amended by the select committee differed from the original Bill in only two important points. It first proposed that a proportion of the rate should be thrown on the owner instead of throwing the whole on the occupier, and that the collection of the whole rate should be made by the owner. In proposing this the committee had not gone beyond their province. When the Bill was read in council a suggestion had been thrown out that the select committee should take into consideration the question of the incidence of the rate; and secondly, the principle of throwing the collection of the whole rate on the owner was merely an extension of the present law, by which as regards the water-rate as well as the police and lighting rates the owner had first to pay and afterwards to recover the rates due on houses of a less annual value than Rs. 100. Therefore he (Mr. Schalch) did not think that in either case the committee could be justly said to have gone beyond their province.

BABOO ISSER CHUNDER GHOSAL, with the permission of the President, begged to say that the hon'ble mover of the Bill had mistaken his views. In the amended Bill the principle announced was that $\frac{1}{4}$ of the rate should be levied from the owner. Had it been proposed to

change the incidence of the rate altogether, he (Baboo Issur Chunder Ghosal) should have understood the matter; but as it was proposed to impose $\frac{3}{4}$ of the rate on one and $\frac{1}{4}$ on another, he did not know on what that principle could be based. There was also another part of the matter which had been misapprehended—

THE PRESIDENT said that he must interrupt the hon'ble member as being out of order. Without entering into any discussion of what it would be lawful for the select committee to do or not to do, he had come to the conclusion on the whole, on an examination of the rules of the council, that it was his duty to rule that this amendment was out of order and could not be moved. The rules contained no provision whatever for referring a Bill back to the select committee after they had made their report. The rule said that the report of the committee should be taken into consideration, in order to the settlement of the clauses of the Bill, as soon as conveniently may be; and then there followed a provision by which the hon'ble member might indirectly gain his object, if the council were of opinion that the amendments of the select committee should not be considered: for the rule went on to say—“When the report is taken into consideration, it may be moved that the clauses of the Bill be considered for settlement in the form recommended by the select committee.” Therefore it would be the duty of the hon'ble member in charge of the Bill to make that motion before the council proceeded to consider the Bill. If that motion was affirmed, the clauses would be so considered; if not affirmed, the clauses would be considered for settlement as they stood when the Bill was read in council.

The question that the report of the select committee be taken into consideration in order to the settlement of the clauses of the Bill was then agreed to.

MR. SCHALCH then moved that the clauses of the Bill be considered in the form recommended by the select committee.

The motion was agreed to.

The consideration of Section 1 was postponed.

Section 2 was agreed to.

Section 3 provided that the water-rate should be sufficient to provide for all current expenses and for all necessary amendments and reparations, for the expenses of any extension of the water works sanctioned by the Lieutenant-Governor, for the interest of the money borrowed, or which might hereafter be borrowed, for the construction of the works, and for the formation of a sinking fund, with a proviso that the rate should not exceed 5 per cent. of the annual value of the houses, premises, and lands assessed therewith.

MR. SCHALCH said there had been two alterations in this section; one was that every extension proposed should be subject to the sanction of the Lieutenant-Governor. As he understood, when he took charge of the bill, by the term “extension” it was not meant to include extensions of a large kind, but such slight extensions as were rendered necessary by the laying down of pipes where they had not hitherto been laid, or where *bustees* had been brought under proper municipal control by the opening out within them of proper roads. But some of the members of the select committee seemed to fear that a powerful executive might take advantage of the provision to make large extensions, and therefore the committee agreed to limit the provision as he had just stated, and to provide that all extensions should be subject to the sanction of the Lieutenant-Governor. The next alteration was as to the rate of 5 per cent.

When the bill was introduced, it seemed to be the general opinion that a maximum should be fixed. From the papers he had seen, he believed that the rate proposed was on the whole the lowest that could be fixed. A rate of 5 per cent. would represent about five lakhs of rupees. The interest to be paid, together with the amount to be reserved as a sinking fund, would amount to more than three lakhs, and the working establishment would cost about Rs. 1,28,000, besides contingencies and the cost of collection, which would require another Rs. 10,000. This year there might be an addition of some back interest to pay; therefore a rate of 5 per cent. was certainly not too much, and would merely leave a margin of about Rs. 50,000 for repairs and the like. But although this was the maximum, there was no reason why the justices should not limit the rate to such sum as would be necessary for the actual requirements of the town.

BABOO ISSUR CHUNDER GHOSAL said he thought that the maximum rate provided in this Bill was, under present circumstances, necessary, and appeared reasonable enough. But he thought that an expression of opinion should have been made by the honorable member as to whether the maximum now proposed was to be the permanent rate, or whether it was proposed as an *ad interim* rate. If the formation of a sinking fund was necessary, he (Baboo Issur Chunder Ghosal) did not see why the rate should be made permanent. The town should not be charged with any rate that was not necessary. Originally, in 1863, the rate proposed and sanctioned was a rate of 2 per cent., and when the justices came up again, in 1866, with a proposal that it should be increased to 3 per cent., this Council, after a very careful and most elaborate enquiry, and a full consideration of the entire question, increased the rate to 4 per cent. of their own free and voluntary motion, in order to enable the justices not only to meet the expenses of the time, but for future contingencies too; that is, the council of 1866 not only granted the 3 per cent. applied for by the justices, but another per cent. over and

above it as a margin for future exigencies. But the justices had not kept faith with the legislature, and their expenditure had been so reckless, that even that large maximum was not now sufficient; and if no check were put to this waste of public money, he did not know where they were to stop. He found, amongst the discussions which took place during the passing of the Act of 1866, that Mr. Peterson, who was then a member of the Council, said:—

"The estimates for carrying out the works on which these calculations were made, so far as he had been able to see, had been made at very high rates, and if they were exceeded, he could not but attribute it to mismanagement. He thought the estimates should not be allowed to ooze out, for then contractors would never be found to do the work for less, notwithstanding the fact that very high prices had been fixed and; as far as he could see, the works ought to be executed at a much smaller cost."

THE honorable mover of the present Bill was also in charge of that Bill, and with reference to these remarks he observed:—

"With regard to the very heavy estimate spoken of, he might mention that the rates in it were purposely taken at the highest, as great doubts had been expressed as to the possibility of executing any work within the estimate."

Consequently it appeared that 4 per cent. would be quite sufficient; but if an extra one per cent. was necessary, he (Baboo Issur Chunder Ghosal) thought that it should be in the nature of an *ad interim* rate and not of a permanent tax.

MR. SCHALCH said he wished to make a few remarks with reference to what had fallen from the honorable member. First with regard to the sinking fund. The honorable member seemed to think that by having a sinking fund there would be an annual decrease in the amount of interest to be paid. He (Mr. Schalch) would first mention that we were bound to pay interest at the rate of 6 per cent. until the whole loan has been paid, and of that over 2 per cent. went to a sinking fund; we would not thereby decrease the amount of interest to be paid, because, if we did so, it would take 52 years to pay off the loan. But the principle of a sinking fund was that the interest accumulated at compound interest, and so increased in contributing to the re-payment of the loan; consequently, the debt would be paid off in 32 years instead of 52 years: therefore the justices would still have to pay annually the whole amount of interest, *viz.*, Rs. 3,12,000. As to the rate proposed in the former Act being 4 per cent., he would observe that the rate was practically a rate of 5 per cent.; for the justices were to contribute a lakh of rupees annually, which was equivalent to a rate of one per cent. Therefore the maximum now proposed was practically the same as the maximum rate imposed by the former law.

The honorable member had also made some observations about reckless expenditure and waste of money, with regard to which he (Mr. Schalch) desired to make a few remarks. The whole question of the expenditure on account of the water-works had been repeatedly under discussion. The rates originally fixed were no doubt then considered high, but it had been found absolutely necessary to exceed those rates. However, the loan originally proposed was the same, and he believed the works had been executed without waste, and we were bound in any case to pay the interest. As he said before, the interest added to the amount of the working expenses and contingencies would take up nearly the whole of a 5 per cent. rate, leaving a margin of only Rs. 50,000 to meet the expense of repairs, which, though more than sufficient at present, would no doubt increase afterwards.

With regard to the permanence of the rate, this Act would remain the law until it was rescinded by some succeeding legislation; therefore it had as much permanence as the council had power to give it.

The section was then agreed to.

Section 4 provided that the rate should be payable quarterly in advance.

MR. ROBINSON said, as this was the first of the clauses relating to the collection of the water-rate, he would call attention to the fact that there was no provision made for any remission of the rate in the event of the water-supply failing. When the water was once laid on, the occupier would be entirely dependent on that source for his supply, and as the works were on the constant-service system, a very slight interruption in any part of them might deprive the whole street or even two or three streets of their supply, which would put the occupier to the expense of employing bhisteas and paying the water-rate at the same time. He thought the Act should provide that a remission should be granted in the event of a failure in the supply of water.

BABOO ISSUR CHUNDER GHOSAL moved the omission of the whole section. It appeared to him to involve a new principle of pre-payment, which, if adopted, would create great confusion in the municipal accounts; nor did he see what peculiar benefit the municipality would wish to have at the sacrifice of the payer. He thought that the old principle, of payment after the rate was due, and after demand was made, should be adhered to. The burden would principally fall on the occupiers of houses, who are generally foreign gentlemen, and eventually be a matter of loss to them. Again, if pre-payment was to be enforced on the owners of houses, it would be felt by that body as a most grievous and particular injury done to them. Whatever good motive might underlie this measure, it will be misunderstood. For if more than 5 per cent. be generally given by the trade for the collection of money for articles sold at large profits, do honorable members believe that a 2 per cent. commission would be sufficient, *1st*, for paying hard cash out of their own pockets without any profit, and sometimes, on the contrary,

at a loss; and then for collecting the same from a class of gentlemen who, the municipality have admitted, care not even for distraints. The council should be fair to all parties concerned, and remove this section from the Bill.

MR. SCHALCH said, that under the old system of collection there was a considerable loss, especially in the case of rates levied upon occupiers. It was a frequent occurrence for a person to leave a house during a quarter, and he never took the trouble of thinking whether any rate was due, and it was impossible for the municipality to know when the occupier was about to leave. The loss on this account amounted to about Rs. 3,000 on every lakh; consequently those who really paid the tax had to make up the difference, and additional taxation had to be imposed to make up this loss. He did not think that this was right, and in asking for payment in advance we did not make any unfair provision, as a re-payment was provided for such portion of the quarter during which the house remained unoccupied. He thought that practically the loss sustained in interest on pre-payment was so small, a mere fraction, that it should not be taken into consideration in comparison with the great benefit obtained by relieving the honest tax-payer from an additional burden.

THE PRESIDENT said that the amendment proposed was a mere negative of the question before the Council, and therefore under the Rules of the Council could not be moved. The honorable mover of the amendment could gain his object by dividing the Council on the question that the section do stand as part of the Bill.

The section was then agreed to.

Section 5 provided that the water-rate should be payable by owners.

MR. SCHALCH said that before the hon'ble member opposite (Baboo Joteendro Mohun Tagore) proposed his amendment, he would ask leave to make a few remarks. The hon'ble member on his left (Baboo Issur Chunder Ghosal) had stated that there had been no reason given for a departure from the principle at present in force of levying directly from occupiers rates payable by them, but he had undertaken, in order to save the time of the council, to state those reasons in connection with the present clause. The principal alterations of the whole Bill were included in this section. There were two principles involved: one was that this section, taken in connection with the following four sections, threw a portion of the rate on the owner, and practically the quarter and three-fourths rates were thrown respectively on the owner and on the occupier. He (Mr. Schalch) might fairly be asked what were the reasons for this change. When the Bill came before the council there was a suggestion thrown out that this question, as to whether the entire rate should be borne by the occupier, or a portion placed on the owner, should be considered. There had been a very strong feeling that it was unfair to put the whole tax on the occupier. With regard to the previous legislation on this point, he might mention that it seemed to him that it had been entirely founded on the assumption taken from the precedent of London, where the tax was levied on the occupier. But the case of London was different. In London water was supplied by private companies, but in Calcutta the water was supplied by the corporation—in fact by the rate-payers themselves. When the water was supplied by a company it was not considered advisable to give them the power of enforcing compulsory rates and any compulsory remedy; they were left to deal with those to whom they supplied the water. In all the recent instances in England, water-works had generally been constructed by the corporation, and compulsory taxation imposed for the levy of the necessary expenditure connected with the water-supply. Since introducing the Bill, he had received a copy of the report of the Royal Commission lately appointed to enquire into the best mode of extending the supply of water to London and the principal provincial towns. The recommendations of that commission were summed up in the last page of their report. They said—

"We are of opinion that it is a matter of vital importance that an abundant supply of water should be provided for all classes of the population, as well as for general public purposes, street watering and cleansing, public fountains, and extinguishing fires.

"That for this purpose there should be a power of levying, as at Manchester, Glasgow and elsewhere, two rates—one a special or domestic rate on all dwelling-houses, the other a public or general rate upon all rateable property; that no trading company should be permitted to levy or expend such compulsory rates, and that therefore the future control of the water-supply should be entrusted to a responsible public body, with powers conferred upon them for the purchase and extension of existing works, and for levying the rates referred to. That this plan offers the only feasible means of introducing efficiently the system of constant supply, and for securing a compulsory supply to the poor. We believe that it would tend to economy, to the improvement of the quality of the water, and to secure the proper provision for public objects, and for extinguishing fires."

Consequently it was now accepted as a principle, not only for future adoption, but actually enforced in many cases, that the rate should be divided between the occupier and owner. It was said that the owner received no benefit. This he denied. The supply of water to a town raised the value of property, and inasmuch as the comfort of the inhabitants was increased, they desired to live in that town, and thus raised the rent of property. In another part of the same report was given what the actual rule now was in Glasgow, Manchester and Liverpool—

"The corporation (of Manchester) are stated to have the power of levying two rates—one, a public or general rate, which is fixed at 3*d.* in the pound; and secondly, a special or domestic rate upon all dwelling-houses which is 9*d.* in the pound, making in this second class of property 1*s.* in the pound on the rateable value, or

about 10½d. on the gross rental. For the 3d. rate for water is specially supplied, but the rate is a contribution for the advantages secured to the whole community by their protection in case of fire, cleansing streets, flushing sewers, &c., &c. The 9d. rate is for water actually supplied for domestic use."

That was the course adopted in Manchester, and it would be exactly the same in this town if the present Bill be passed. There would be paid a rate of 5 per cent., or one shilling in the pound, of which three pence or quarter would be paid by the owner, and nine pence or three-fourths by the occupier. We are therefore introducing no new principle, and if we are departing from the principle hitherto adopted here, we are departing from a "wrong and vicious principle and adopting a just and right one."

The question of the proportion of the burden of taxation between the occupier and owner would come under consideration in section 7, by which the owner was empowered to recover a certain proportion of the rate from the tenant. He (Mr. Schalch) would defer his remarks on that subject for the present. The principle laid down in the section under review, was that the entire rate should be first paid by the owner, and that he should have power to recover the occupier's portion from his tenant. That was absolutely no new principle, because, by the existing law, in all cases where the annual rent was less than Rs. 100, the landlord was bound to collect and pay the rate to the Justices. The present Bill merely contained an extension of that principle which was adopted to make the matter more simple, and save time in the collection of the rate, and would probably tend to a reduction of the rate imposed. Under the present rule, for such collections as the owner had to make he received no consideration, but by this Bill he would receive a commission of 2 per cent. on all sums he paid in at an early date. However, this was not a matter of great consequence. If the council thought that the present state of things was the best, and that owners should only be required to collect the rate from the occupier in cases where the rental was under Rs. 100, he (Mr. Schalch) had no very great objection: it was not a matter of so great importance as the first principle, which necessitated the distribution of the burden of taxation between the occupier and owner. He saw that in a paper from the British Indian Association great stress was laid on the amount of losses incurred in the collection of the tax; in this matter they seem to have fallen into some errors; for in a recent memorandum he observed that the losses in levying the rate amounted to something less than Rs. 3,000 in each lakh, or about 3 per cent. Almost the whole of that loss was caused from the system of levying the rate after the expiration of the quarter; but now payments would be made in advance, and the chief and probably the sole source of such losses would be stopped; and as the owner was empowered under the Act to recover the rate from the tenant also in advance, he would be protected from that loss. The British Indian Association seemed to think that there was a doubt on that point, but when the council came to that section he doubted not that they would have a favorable opinion on the subject from the learned Advocate-General. One principle now before the council was the proportion of taxation; the other principle was the collection through the owner. The second principle was of much less importance than the first, and the two questions should be kept separate, and not mixed up in any amendment which might be proposed.

BABOO JOTEENDRO MOHUN TAGORE said that he did not quite understand how the hon'ble member thought the principle laid down in the three different Acts of the council was "wrong" or "vicious." Whether we considered the watering of streets, the supply of drinking water to the inhabitants, or the flushing of drains, all the advantages were enjoyed by the occupier and none by the owner as such. For instance, a person might reside in the mofussil and yet be the owner of a house in town: what advantage would he derive from the water-supply works? Surely when the advantages were enjoyed by one class it was but just that they should be called on to pay, and not the owners. He did not know what the case was in other cities of Europe, but in London a different principle held good; there the tenant, and not the landlord, was called on to pay the water-rate. It was said that in the general improvement of the city, the owner should be interested; but the landlord did pay his contribution for such improvements. There was a revised assessment every three years, and whatever the improvement was the landlord contributed towards it in the shape of increased taxation. He could not be called on to pay twice for the same thing. Then as to the principle that the whole amount should be paid by the owner and a portion recovered by him from his tenant—he did not see why that principle had been adopted. The municipality had a well-organised and well-paid establishment for the collection of the rates, and if they were found unable or lax in the performance of their duty, that was no reason why the burden should be imposed on the landlord. If they had suffered a loss, much more would a private individual suffer who had not the same facilities as the Justices for recovering the rate. A private individual must resort to the small cause court to realize the smallest amount due. It would be a very strange way of indemnifying the municipality by requiring proprietors to share the loss amongst themselves. He therefore moved that Section 5 be omitted and that Section 4 of the original Bill be substituted for it.

The ADVOCATE-GENERAL said that as he had before the council an amendment which he had intended to propose, and which followed the principle of the amendment just proposed, he was bound to state briefly his reasons for coming to the conclusion to which he had come, to withdraw and not to propose this particular amendment. He might mention that in recurring,

as he had proposed to do, to the principle of the Acts of 1863, 1866, and 1867, which imposed the water-rate on the occupier, he was a good deal influenced by the impression that no case had been made out for any alteration of that principle, and also what weighed a good deal with him was practically the confusion which the municipality would be introducing in collecting the rate from any one but occupiers, in the numerous cases in which the owners of houses in Calcutta were not resident in Calcutta, or in any part of the provinces subject to the jurisdiction of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal. In such cases the remedies for recovery by distress from the owner would prove infructuous. But he was informed by the hon'ble member in charge of the Bill, who from his antecedents must be exceedingly well-qualified from his practical experience on the subject, that as regards the house-rate, which he (the Advocate-General) referred to as illustrative of the difficulty of working the principle of assessment on owners, no difficulty had been found to exist in the realization of the rate in the case of absent owners, by reason of the provision (which would be applicable in the general Act of 1863 under this Bill) by which in the case of absent owners the rate could be recovered from the occupier, who was empowered to deduct the amount from the rent payable by him to the owner. Therefore the difficulty which occurred to him (the Advocate-General) as regards the collection of the water-rate from absent owners would in practice not arise. With regard to the broader question as to whether or not there was reason to depart from the principle adopted in 1863, 1866, and 1867, further consideration had led him to the conclusion that in the present case we should to a limited extent depart from that principle, because we had already departed from it in the working of the existing law. Perhaps it was not quite clear whether, under the general Act of 1863 the legislature, by the completion of the works as regards the supply of water to the town, intended completion in the sense that the works were so to be introduced into the town that by the construction at the expense of some one or other of communication-pipes and other subsidiary works water should be carried to the houses, or whether the legislature intended to include the actual supply of water to the houses. On referring to the terms of the Act, he found that this principle appeared to have been adopted, that, as soon as a supply was completed, a water-rate should be imposed not exceeding two per cent. on all houses and buildings within the town, and then that in case water should be supplied in houses or buildings an additional rate of one or two per cent., rising proportionally to the height or pressure at which the water must be supplied to any particular house, should also be imposed. Then in the Act of 1866 it was enacted that every householder, instead of as under the Act of 1863 a householder not being entitled to have water supplied into his house except on the terms of his paying such additional rising rate, should be entitled to have the water supplied for domestic use on payment of a uniform rate not exceeding 4 per cent. That was based on the principle of not making the rate depend on the question whether the water was supplied for domestic use or for purposes of business. But practically under the Act of 1866 the only mode in which an occupier could obtain the benefit of having the water supplied to his house—could obtain any benefit other than from the supply of water in the streets at the stand-posts; the only mode in which he could avail himself of that direct and immediate benefit to himself and his family, which under the Act of 1866 he was to be entitled to on the payment of a uniform rate—was by his constructing the necessary communication-pipes and works at his own expense. And if he did not do that, under the Act of 1866—and the same thing was kept up under the Act of 1867 the only benefit which would result from the supply of water was to be obtained from the stand-posts. On further consideration it seemed to him, and it seemed to him now, that there would be something very unjust in the acceptance of that principle; and for this reason. If the occupier, and the occupier only, was to pay the water-rate, and he was merely to get the supply provided under the Act of 1866, he could only get a personal benefit from the supply of water by constructing the necessary communication-pipes at his own expense. The result would be that he who would mostly be an occupying tenant for a term of from two to five years, would be making a permanent addition to the value of the house, which would be of no earthly value or use to him at the expiration of that term; that by reason of the permanent addition made at the expense of the occupier, and which would add to the value of the house, the owner would be in a position to get a better rent from a new tenant, who would have to pay the rate subject to any advantage the proprietor might derive during the period of his tenancy, and the owner would get the whole advantage as regards the permanent increase to the value of his property, at the expense, in the first instance, of the occupying tenant, and a further advantage afterwards at the expense of a succeeding tenant who paid the rate. Under these circumstances, and after having had the advantage of discussing the matter with the hon'ble member in charge of the Bill, he (the Advocate-General) came to the conclusion that it was much more equitable that there should be a division of charge between the owner and occupier. Practically he thought that there could be no question that if the owner was only to be subject to one-fourth of the rate of 5 per cent. or $1\frac{1}{4}$ per cent., he could fully recoup himself without in the least diminishing the certainty of being able to let his house in future, by increasing the rent to the extent of $1\frac{1}{4}$ per cent., which would be so inconsiderable that no person would be deterred from taking a house by reason of any such inconsiderable increase.

With regard to the reference that had been made to the state of things existing in London, he apprehended that no analogy existed. In London water, like gas, was

supplied by a company and paid for as any other commodity. You paid for water and gas according to the amount of consumption. The water company turned on their mains, once or twice, he did not remember which, in the twenty-four hours, and filled the cisterns at the different houses; with regard to the dimensions of which cisterns they had complete information. As soon as the cisterns were filled no more water would go on, and the occupier had to pay for as much water as he consumed, just as he paid for so many metres of gas. With regard to the watering of streets and flushing of drains, that was to come out of the proportion of the rate paid by owners, and fell on them as a part of the house-rate; they had to pay for it just as for other improvements in the town. According to the amendment introduced in select committee, the owner would have to pay $1\frac{1}{4}$ per cent. for the advantage and convenience that he would enjoy by the general improvement of the town, in addition to the permanent improvement to the value of his house, and his being able to demand an additional rent as soon as the water could be supplied from the stand-posts into his house.

On these considerations it seemed to him, on further consideration, that the principle now proposed was far more equitable than the existing one.

The Council then divided on Baboo Joteendro Mohun Tagore's amendment :

AYES—4.
Baboo Joteendro Mohun Tagore.
" Chunder Mohun Chatterjee.
" Issur Chunder Ghosal.
Rajah Satyanund Ghosal.

NOES—9.
Mr. Wyman.
" Robinson.
" Sutherland.
" Schalch.
" Thompson.
" Money.
The Hon'ble Ashley Eden.
" Advocate-General.
" President.

The motion was therefore negatived.

On the motion of THE ADVOCATE-GENERAL the words " subject to the provisions of the last preceding section " were prefixed to the section, which was then agreed to.

Section 6 was agreed to with a verbal amendment.

MR. SCHALCH said there was a somewhat peculiar under-tenure in the town, under which the land on which a house or hut was built was the property of one person, and the building the property of the tenant, who had the right to remove it. In such cases, as the law stood, the owner of the land would have to pay one-fourth of the rate assessed on the house or hut which did not belong to him; but it was not fair that the landlord should pay any portion of the rate on a house that did not belong to him, and therefore, to meet such cases, he (Mr. Schalch) would move the introduction after section 6 of the following new section :—

" For the purposes of this Act, the owner of any land upon which any house or tenement is situate shall be deemed to be the owner of such house or tenement, and shall be liable to the payment of the water-rate payable in respect of such house or tenement."

The motion was agreed to.

Section 7 was agreed to.

MR. SCHALCH then moved the introduction of the following section to carry out the principle of the section previously introduced, and to enable the owner in such cases to recover the full amount of the rate, and not only three-fourths :—

VIII. " Whenever the owner of any land on which any house or tenement may be situated shall not be the owner of such house or tenement, and shall have paid the rate for such land and for such house or tenement, it shall be lawful for him to recover from the owner of such house or tenement, in addition to the three-fourths of the water-rate payable in respect of such land, the entire amount of the water-rate payable in respect of such house."

The motion was agreed to.

Section 8 was agreed to after several verbal amendments.

Section 9 was agreed to.

Section 10 provided that no rate should be levied on unoccupied houses.

MR. MONEY said the amendment he had to propose seemed naturally to follow from the principle adopted that one fourth of the rate should be paid by the owner. He could see no reason why, if the principle was adopted that the owner should pay a portion of the water-rate assessed on the house, he should cease to pay such rate when the house was unoccupied. It appeared to him, individually, that instead of paying nothing or only a quarter during the time the house was unoccupied, it would be preferable to enact that the owner should pay even more, because in Calcutta the owners of houses, owing to the geographical position of the town, had a monopoly. In other towns, when the demand exceeded the supply, houses could be built without limit; but in Calcutta, shut in as it was on all sides, that was impossible, and the result was to give owners a monopoly, which enabled them to raise the rents of houses to an extent much higher than they would be able to do but for this condition. That this was the case was apparent from the fact that European residents in Calcutta paid generally a house rent out of all proportion to their means and income. One result of this monopoly is that owners are able to stand out for a rent which, under other circumstances, they would not demand. In the contest which takes place between the owner and the intending occupier the

house remains unoccupied, and the occupier's portion of the rate is unpaid. But according to the Bill as it now stood, the owner's portion of the rate would also be unpaid, and consequently an increased burden would be thrown on the shoulders of other payers of the rate. For these reasons, as regarded his own views, he (Mr. Money) would be glad to see a pressure put on owners by making them pay a larger rate on unoccupied than on occupied houses. He did not anticipate, however, that such an amendment would be successful, but he did hold that, on the principle already adopted, the owner should pay one-fourth of the rate whether the house was occupied or not. It should be considered that one-fourth is the owner's contribution towards the general burden of the water-rate. As had just been remarked to him, the expenditure on account of the general conservancy of the town, the flushing of drains, and the watering of streets, went on just the same whether a house was occupied or not. He would therefore move the substitution of the following for Section 10 as it stood:—

"Three-fourths of the water-rate assessable under this Act on any house, premises, or land shall be remitted for the period during which such house, premises, or land may remain unoccupied."

MR. SUTHERLAND said that he would support the amendment on the ground last stated by the hon'ble member. It appeared but fair and just that the owner should pay the rate whether his house was occupied or not.

BABOO JOTEENDRO MOHUN TAGORE said that he would certainly oppose the amendment. The amendment would have the effect of being a penalty held *in terrorem* over the proprietor to bring him to terms with the tenant; he would therefore deprecate it as an unjust interference with the rights of private property. Besides, as long as the owner did not enjoy any benefit from the house, it would be hard indeed to call on him to pay a rate for that period in order simply that he may not be able to stand out for a rent with the intending occupier.

BABOO ISSUR CHUNDER GHOSAL said that if it was the intention to put a pressure on the landlord, the amendment would fail in its object. If the owner of a property, whose annual rental was Rs. 2,000, could make up his mind to lose the entire rent, he could easily suffer the loss occasioned by the payment of his proportion of the water-rate; but if it was actually intended to put a pressure on the owner, the hon'ble member, to be consistent should make the owner pay the entire amount of the rate as if the house were occupied.

MR. SCHALCH said that he thought that in considering this question, the Council should look to a very similar case. By the existing law only half of the house-rate was remitted during the time a house remained unoccupied: the municipality lost half and only half. Here they would lose the whole rate, and under the amendment proposed they would still lose three-fourths. Taking into consideration the precedent of the house-rate, he thought that it would be a fair and just provision to make the owner pay one-fourth of the water-rate even when his house remained unoccupied.

The Council then divided on Mr. Money's amendment:—

AYES.—9.

Mr. Wyman.
" Robinson.
" Sutherland.
" Schalh.
" Thompson.
" Money.
The Hon'ble Ashley Eden.
" Advocate-General.
" President.

NOES.—4.

Baboo Joteendro Mohun Tagore.
" Chunder Mohun Chatterjee.
" Isser Chunder Ghosal.
Rajah Satyanund Ghosal.

The motion was therefore carried.

Section 11 was agreed to with some slight amendments.

Section 12 was agreed to.

Section 13 was passed with several verbal amendments.

Section 14 was agreed to.

MR. WYMAN said the amendment which he was about to propose comprised the addition of several sections, involving one principle however, that of compelling landlords to lay on pipes for the supply of water to houses. He was sorry that he had had occasion to differ from some of his honorable colleagues on the select committee in respect to this matter; but he was afraid perhaps that at the time he had not made himself completely understood. He never contemplated that it should be made compulsory on tenants to have water laid on, whether they wished it or not. But he then and still thought that every tenant should be able to compel the owner to bear a portion of the outlay in laying on service-pipes to a house,—an addition which must tend to the ultimate advantage of the owner, and add to the pecuniary value of his property. It had been urged outside that it was no more equitable to compel a landlord to lay on water than gas. But it appeared to him (Mr. Wyman) that the two cases were quite different. We had now to pay a heavy water-rate, and without the house service he considered tenants would be paying a large tax for no sufficient purpose. It never could have been contemplated that the only benefit to the householder in return for the heavy tax imposed should be the satisfaction of knowing that his *bheestie* could obtain water from a stand-post, instead of as before from a tank or aqueduct, and it was surely not just

that the tenant should pay entirely the cost of an improvement which, however much it might tend to benefit himself at the time, must tend still more to the ultimate pecuniary benefit of the landlord. The fair medium seemed to be to consider the outlay in respect of the house-service in the light of an improvement to be made by the landlord at the request of the tenant, such as was frequently and willingly done by an owner in the case of additions or improvements to a house, for which a fair interest should be payable on the capital outlayed. He (Mr. Wyman) had been favored with several suggestions by his honorable colleagues, to whom he was much indebted; and he thought the amendments, as now drawn up, would be found to meet the views of both the occupiers and owners of houses. He observed in the last paragraph of the letter of the British Indian Association, that the terms of the amendment were commented on in a strong manner, and a wrong inference was drawn, which he regretted and wished to explain away. It was inferred that there was to be made a distinction between Europeans and Natives. If the words originally used, or the amendments which he intended to propose, could lead to such an idea, he begged to disclaim any such intention. He assumed that the introduction of water-pipes into native huts would be attended with much difficulty: further that the landlords of such would not be prepared to lay on pipes, that the tenants would hardly require him to do so, and that the provision would most likely prove a means of oppression on the part of small tenants to sub-tenants holding under them. These were the reasons why he had confined the amendment to houses occupied by Europeans. But he entirely agreed that it would be utterly repugnant to the spirit of British legislation to introduce class distinctions such as had been assumed—distinctions he never in the least contemplated. He deemed it due to himself to make this explanation to show that he did not propose the amendments in the sense in which they had been understood.

The first section which he would propose introduced the compulsory principle. It was as follows:—

"It shall be lawful for the tenant holding direct from the owner of any house or land by notice in writing signed by him, to require the owner of such house or land to perform all such necessary works as may be required for bringing into such house or land a proper and sufficient supply of water for domestic purposes. Every such notice shall contain an undertaking on the part of such tenant to pay 12 per. cent. per annum during the residue of his lease, calculated from the date of the completion of the works."

After consultation with several of his honorable colleagues, he came to the conclusion that a percentage would be the more equitable way of meeting the case. The laying on of water-pipes was really little different from any other improvement, and although the tenant might have a short period to run, the next tenant would doubtless be willing to pay the twelve per cent.; and on his refusing to do so, the landlord might enhance the rent or remove the pipes, thereby virtually compelling the tenant to pay. Assuming that the system was in force for ten years, the landlord would recover his outlay with interest in that period.

The next section which he (Mr. Wyman) would propose was as follows:—

"The supply to a house shall be deemed sufficient for domestic purposes if it provides the necessary works for and with a tap in each bath-room not exceeding three in each floor of such house; one other such tap in the cook-room of, or attached to such house, and one other such tap in the premises, or in or near the stables of, or attached to such house. Provided that if the annual rent of such house shall be less than Rs. 300, it shall be sufficient to provide the necessary works for, or with one tap only within the said premises: and provided also that this section shall not apply to huts, shops, godowns or other places of business or trade; and also to houses or buildings situate in streets, lanes, bye-lanes, or thoroughfares where water-pipes have not been laid by the justices. Provided further that the occupier of such house or building shall keep in repair at his own expense the works laid in by the owner for such supply of water."

It was considered necessary to define the extent of house service, because otherwise there might be constant disputes between the parties. He thought that less than had been specified in the section would not be sufficient for domestic purposes. An honorable member had suggested the addition of the first proviso (which he (Mr. Wyman) had not thought necessary, but to which he had no objection) explaining more fully the intention of the section, with a view to guard against the making of requisitions that were not contemplated. Of course, if water-pipes had not been laid down in the street, the tenant could not ask the landlord to lay in water.

The next section stood thus:—

"In case any owner shall not within the space of two months from the service of such notice, cause such necessary works as aforesaid to be completed, it shall be lawful for the tenant who shall have given such notice to cause such necessary works to be completed, and to deduct from the rent payable by him the cost of such works by equal instalments extending over a period of not less than six months."

It was of course necessary to give the tenant power to lay on pipes if the landlord refused to do so, and it would be only fair by way of penalty to empower the tenant to deduct the cost from the rent. Although it might seem harsh to throw on the landlord the whole cost of laying on water, in such a case he brought it on himself by refusing to obey the law.

The fourth section which he proposed was:—

"No works for introducing a supply of water into any house or land shall be commenced by the owner without sending an estimate of the cost thereof to the tenant, nor by the tenant without sending such estimate to the owner."

That was a section which it was quite as well to introduce to prevent any dispute being made either by the landlord or tenant.

The fifth section ran thus:—

"In case there shall be any difference between the owner and the tenant respecting the cost or the sufficiency of the works, it shall be lawful for such owner or such tenant to refer such difference to the justices, and the written award of the engineer of the justices or of any officer authorized by the justices in that behalf shall be binding on the owner and the tenant."

It was proposed to refer disputes to the arbitration of the engineer to the justices, or other officer authorized in that behalf by the justices, in order that the opinion of the arbitrator might be entitled to respect; and it was enacted that his award would be final.

The next section was as follows:—

"There shall be payable to the justices in respect of every such reference the sum of Rs. 2 for every hundred rupees of the monthly rent of the house in respect of the water-supply to which the difference may have arisen, provided that such fee shall in no case exceed Rs. 10; such fee shall be paid by the person making such reference. All such works as aforesaid shall be constructed subject to the inspection and to the satisfaction of the engineer of the justices, or of some other officer appointed by the justices in that behalf; and for the purposes of such inspection it shall be lawful for the said engineer or other officer to enter the house or land at all reasonable times, or until the completion of such works."

It was as well to fix the fee for reference to arbitration, without which the parties might be unnecessarily delayed; and it was also necessary that the works should be constructed subject to the approval of the justices with regard to the necessity of adopting one systematic plan of work and providing for proper efficiency.

The last section was:—

"It shall be lawful for any owner who shall have completed such works to recover from the person who shall have given such notice any sum which such person had undertaken to pay as if the same were rent payable for the house in respect to which such notice shall have been given."

There was another clause suggested which he thought might fairly be inserted, and which was proposed to be added as a proviso to the second of these sections. It would only be fair that the tenant should be required to see that the pipes were kept in proper order; otherwise on his leaving the house he might choose to pull half the pipes down, and involve the owner in extra expense on account of repairs. He might mention that as regards the justice of making this house-service compulsory on house-owners, he had taken the opportunity of consulting a very large house-owner, and although as the amendment now stood, it was not exactly in the form in which it was when the reference was made, his friend had stated that he considered a division of the expense to be equitable, and that he (the house-owner in question) was quite willing to bear his share of the cost. As far as regards the desirability of the compulsory clause, he (Mr. Wyman) believed that, failing anything of the kind, there would be constant disputes. He had heard the matter very much discussed, and divers opinions expressed. He thought that the course he proposed would save much litigation and annoyance. Further, should the system of closet drainage be introduced into houses, a full supply of water would be very necessary, and the owner would undoubtedly be the person who would then have to lay it on, and therefore the owner had not much to complain of against these clauses. Ten years hence, he believed, water-pipes in houses would be looked on as a matter of course: a man would then no more take a house without water laid on, than he would do so now in London.

With these remarks he would leave the matter in the hands of the council: and he trusted he should be considered to have consulted in the amendments as proposed equally the interest of the owner and of the tenant.

THE ADVOCATE-GENERAL said that as the amendments which had been read were very lengthy, and would probably lead to a good deal of discussion as regards both principle and details, he would ask the President, under the 9th of the rules of the council, to postpone to the next meeting the consideration of the proposed sections.

THE PRESIDENT postponed the consideration of the sections, and also the further consideration of the bill.

COURT OF WARDS.

MR. MONEY postponed the motion which stood in the list of business for the further consideration of the report of the select committee on the bill to consolidate and amend the law relating to the court of wards in the provinces under the control of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal.

The Council was adjourned to Saturday, the 12th instant.

The Chyebassah Annual Fair.

From DR. W. H. HAYES, Deputy Commissioner of Singbhoom, to the Commissioner of Chota Nagpore,—(No. 830, dated Chyebassah, the 11th January 1870.)

I HAVE the honor to submit a report on the Singbhoom Annual Fair held at Chyebassah, from the 15th December 1869 to 4th January 1870.

2. The last is the seventh fair, since its first establishment. I am happy to report that it bore the stamp of all preceding ones in being thoroughly appreciated by the people, and shewed that at no very remote time it will develop the resources of the district.

3. It has been reported, from year to year, that a marked improvement was noticeable in each subsequent fair. I find Lieutenant Lillingston, in his description of the gathering in last year's fair, stated that it was such as had never before been seen in Chyebassah, and that people from the most distant *peers* were present. The gathering on this occasion was even still greater, and the people all thoroughly appreciated the athletic games which were got up for them on the closing day.

4. I am happy to be able to report also that no disease, epidemic or epizootic, prevailed while the fair lasted. It was to be noticed, however, that the large herds of buffaloes, which form an important feature of these fairs, were absent. In the fair of 1867, very great mortality occurred among such herds, and a good many diseased animals got into the district, from which very sad results followed. The loss to the proprietors on that occasion has likely deterred them from importing these animals to so great an extent; and as in their importation epizootics are a certain consequence, I am rather glad that the number of herds has diminished.

5. I append a statement of merchandize brought to and sold at the fair.

6. The number of shops or stalls in the fair were 353.

Statement of Merchandize brought to and sold at the Chyebassah Annual Fair held in December 1869.

Names of articles.	Value of articles brought.	Amount of articles sold.
	Rs. As. P.	Rs. As. P.
Brass pots, imported ...	6,000 0 0	4,000 0 0
Ditto made in district ...	1,600 0 0	500 0 0
Copper pots ...	7,000 0 0	4,000 0 0
Brass ornaments ...	1,200 0 0	500 0 0
Cotton cloth, Europe ...	35,000 0 0	19,000 0 0
Cloths made in district ...	500 0 0	400 0 0
Ditto, woollen ...	1,000 0 0	500 0 0
Carpets, ditto ...	1,500 0 0	400 0 0
Ditto, cotton ...	800 0 0	300 0 0
Coverlets ...	200 0 0	100 0 0
Blankets ...	200 0 0	150 0 0
Salt ...	1,000 0 0	700 0 0
Lac ...	50 0 0	50 0 0
Dhoona, Dammer ...	1,500 0 0	1,500 0 0
Ghee ...	300 0 0	200 0 0
Tobacco ...	300 0 0	200 0 0
Thread, cotton ...	400 0 0	300 0 0
Tusser ...	4,000 0 0	4,000 0 0
Buffaloes ...	600 0 0	500 0 0
Bullocks ...	100 0 0	50 0 0
Horse ...	3,000 0 0	35 0 0
Sugar, unrefined ...	150 0 0	150 0 0
Pulses ...	100 0 0	100 0 0
Coral beads ...	1,000 0 0	500 0 0
Rice and dall, &c. ...	7,000 0 0	5,000 0 0
Miscellaneous articles not included in the above ...	4,070 0 0	2,025 0 0
Total ...	77,970 0 0	45,160 0 0

(Sd.) W. H. HAYES,
Deputy Commissioner.

Weekly Return of Traffic Receipts on Indian Railways.

EAST INDIAN RAILWAY MAIN LINE.

Approximate Return of Traffic for Week ended 23rd January 1870 on 1,131 miles open.

	COACHING TRAFFIC.			MERCHANDISE AND MINERAL TRAFFIC.				Total Traffic Receipts.
	Number of Passengers.	Coaching Receipts.		Weight carried.	Receipts.			
		Rs. As. P.	£. s. d.	Mds. Srs.	Rs. As. P.	£ s. d.	£. s. d.	
Total Traffic for the week	1,19,151	1,99,975 5 4	17,904 8 1	7,22,763 10	4,51,884 15 6	39,589 9 1	57,553 17 2	
Or per mile of Railway ... ..	.....	173 4 5	15 17 8	.....	381 13 9	35 0 1	50 17 9
For previous 2 weeks of half-year...	2,59,007	5,83,183 14 9	53,458 10 6	15,96,594 10	9,89,048 11 9	90,602 16 0	1,44,121 6 6	
Total for 3 weeks	3,77,153	7,79,169 4 1	71,422 18 7	23,19,357 20	14,20,933 10 9	1,30,252 6 1	2,01,675 3 8	
COMPARISON.								
Total for corresponding week of previous year	99,812	1,69,712 9 3	14,731 19 8	7,28,349 10	4,11,692 12 2	37,738 10 1	52,479 9 9	
Per mile of Railway corresponding week of previous year ... ..	.....	142 1 7	13 0 6	.....	354 0 1	33 7 4	46 7 10
Total to corresponding date of previous year	3,26,615	5,57,711 13 3	51,123 11 8	23,88,765 20	12,76,767 13 11	1,17,036 2 0	1,68,150 14 5	

EAST INDIAN RAILWAY JUBBULPORE LINE.

Approximate Return of Traffic for Week ended 23rd January 1870 on 223 miles open.

		Rs. As. P.	£ s. d.	Mds. Srs.	Rs. As. P.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Total Traffic for the week ...	9,368	19,972 9 0	1,830 16 4	35,477 0	9,691 10 3	888 8 6	2,719 4 4
Or per mile of Railway ...	...	89 9 0	8 4 3	...	43 7 4	3 19 8	12 3 11
For previous 2 weeks of half-year...	12,999	24,397 1 11	4,986 8 1	94,201 30	25,923 6 9	2,376 6 3	7,362 14 4
Total for 3 weeks ...	22,367	74,369 10 11	6,817 4 5	1,29,678 30	35,615 1 0	3,254 14 3	10,081 18 8
COMPARISON.							
Total for corresponding week of previous year ...	4,162	10,752 5 6	985 12 8	54,061 30	16,850 9 1	1,542 16 0	2,528 8 8
Per mile of Railway corresponding week of previous year ...	...	48 3 6	4 8 5	...	75 7 7	6 18 4	11 6 9
Total to corresponding date of previous year ...	14,291	38,767 6 7	3,653 13 8	1,67,907 30	50,156 6 5	4,597 13 4	8,161 7 0

EASTERN BENGAL RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic for Week ended 22nd January 1870 on 113½ miles open.

		Rs. As. P.	£ s. d.	Mds. Srs.	Rs. As. P.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Total Traffic for the week ...	33,927	25,571 11 6	2,344 1 5	87,206 0	16,081 12 0	1,474 3 3	3,818 4 8
Or per mile of Railway ...	300	225 12 9	20 14 0	770 0	142 0 0	13 0 4	33 14 4
For previous 3 weeks of half-year...	61,550	43,779 3 0	4,013 1 10	2,02,195 0	30,521 4 6	2,797 15 8	6,819 17 6
Total for 4 weeks ...	95,477	69,350 14 6	6,357 3 3	2,89,401 0	46,603 0 6	4,271 18 11	10,629 2 2
COMPARISON.							
Total for corresponding week of previous year ...	25,570	16,951 1 9	1,553 17 0	81,703 36	14,559 8 3	1,354 12 6	2,588 9 6
Per mile of Railway corresponding week of previous year ...	228	149 10 10	13 14 5	721 18	128 9 0	11 15 8	25 10 1
Total to corresponding date of previous year ...	81,691	52,329 1 1	4,796 16 7	2,95,134 26	55,854 14 6	5,120 0 8	9,916 17 3

CALCUTTA AND SOUTH-EASTERN STATE RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic for Week ended 22nd January 1870 on 28 miles open.

		Rs. As. P.	£ s. d.	Mds. S.	Rs. As. P.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Total Traffic for the week ...	6,543	1,161 3 0	100 18 10	11,907 30	379 19 6	34 16 1	135 14 11
Or per mile of Railway ...	248	39 5 3	3 12 1	427 0	13 8 11	1 4 11	4 17 0
For previous 3 weeks of half-year...	13,139	2,132 1 0	195 8 9	23,255 4	720 14 3	65 1 8	261 10 5
Total for 4 weeks ...	20,073	3,293 4 0	290 7 7	35,222 34	1,100 8 9	100 17 9	397 5 4
COMPARISON.							
Total for corresponding week of previous year ...	7,638	1,345 9 0	123 6 10	10,712 36	457 12 6	44 14 3	169 1 1
Per mile of Railway corresponding week of previous year ...	273	48 0 11	4 8 1	383 0	17 6 9	1 11 11	6 0 0
Total to corresponding date of previous year ...	19,432	3,765 4 7	345 4 11	32,791 6	1,309 9 9	125 10 11	470 15 10

EAST INDIAN RAILWAY MAIN LINE.

Approximate Return of Traffic for Week ended 30th January 1870 on 1,131 miles open.

	COACHING TRAFFIC.			MERCHANDISE AND MINERAL TRAFFIC.			Total Traffic Receipts.
	Number of Passengers.	Coaching Receipts.		Weight carried.	Receipts.		
		Rs. As. P.	£ s. d.	Mds. Srs.	Rs. As. P.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Total Traffic for the week	1,44,800½	*2,77,228 13 6	25,412 11 11	6,37,941 0	3,98,699 2 3	36,546 15 7	61,959 8 6
Or per mile of Railway		245 1 11	22 9 5		352 8 2	32 6 3	54 15 8
For previous 3 weeks of half-year	3,77,158½	7,79,159 4 1	71,422 18 7	23,19,357 20	14,29,933 10 9	1,36,252 5 1	2,01,675 3 8
Total for 4 weeks	5,21,959	10,56,388 1 7	96,835 11 6	29,57,293 20	18,19,625 13 0	166,799 0 8	2,63,834 12 2
COMPARISON.							
Total for corresponding week of previous year	1,10,235	2,11,214 11 4	19,361 6 11	7,19,611 10	4,14,015 7 8	37,951 8 5	57,312 15 4
Per mile of Railway corresponding week of previous year ... ..	.....	186 12 0	17 2 5	.....	366 1 0	33 11 1	50 13 6
Total to corresponding date of previous year	4,36,750½	7,68,926 8 7	70,484 18 7	31,08,376 30	16,90,773 5 7	1,54,987 11 2	2,25,472 9 9

* Rs. 23,945-5-10 added, being short included in last week.

EAST INDIAN RAILWAY JUBBULPORE LINE.

Approximate Return of Traffic for Week ended 30th January 1870 on 223 miles open.

		Rs. As. P.	£ s. d.	Mds. Srs.	Rs. As. P.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Total Traffic for the week ...	7,895	19,476 1 5	1,785 6 2	42,274 0	10,894 3 0	690 7 8	2,775 13 10
Or per mile of Railway ...		87 5 5	8 0 1		48 7 2	4 8 10	12 8 11
For previous 3 weeks of half-year	22,367½	74,369 10 11	6,817 4 5	1,29,678 30	35,615 1 0	3,264 14 8	10,091 38 8
Total for 4 weeks ...	30,262½	93,845 12 4	8,602 10 7	1,71,952 30	46,419 4 0	4,255 1 11	12,857 12 6
COMPARISON.							
Total for corresponding week of previous year ...	4,006	20,715 15 10	1,898 19 4	63,135 0	16,019 11 4	1,468 9 5	3,367 8 9
Per mile of Railway corresponding week of previous year ...		92 14 4	8 10 4		71 13 5	6 11 8	15 2 0
Total to corresponding date of previous year ...	18,297	56,483 6 5	5,452 13 0	2,31,042 30	66,176 1 9	6,066 2 9	11,518 15 0

EASTERN BENGAL RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic for Week ended 29th January 1870 on 113½ miles open.

		Rs. As. P.	£ s. d.	Mds. Srs.	Rs. As. P.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Total Traffic for the week ...	26,710	17,335 10 5	1,589 2 6	88,463 6	12,920 5 9	1,184 7 4	2,773 9 4
Or per mile of Railway ...		153 1 2	14 0 8	781 16	114 1 5	10 9 2	24 9 10
For previous 4 weeks of half-year	95,477½	69,350 14 6	6,357 3 3	2,89,491 0	46,603 0 6	4,271 18 11	10,629 2 2
Total for 5 weeks ...	1,22,187½	86,686 8 9	7,946 5 3	3,77,894 6	59,523 6 3	5,455 6 3	13,402 11 6
COMPARISON.							
Total for corresponding week of previous year ...	27,917	17,429 15 0½	1,597 14 11	1,24,486 12½	21,219 10 0½	1,945 2 8	3,542 17 7
Per mile of Railway corresponding week of previous year ...		153 14 6	14 2 2	1,099 6	187 5 11	17 3 6	31 6 8
Total to corresponding date of previous year ...	1,09,608	69,759 0 2	6,394 11 6	4,19,614 35½	77,074 8 7½	7,065 3 4	13,459 14 10

CALCUTTA AND SOUTH-EASTERN STATE RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic for Week ended 29th January 1870 on 28 miles open.

		Rs. As. P.	£ s. d.	Mds. Srs.	Rs. As. P.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Total Traffic for the week ...	4,911	974 9 9	89 6 9	18,856 32	569 3 6	52 1 9	141 8 6
Or per mile of Railway ...		34 12 11	3 3 10	692 0	20 4 8	1 17 2	5 1 0
For previous 4 weeks of half-year	20,073	3,233 4 0	296 7 7	53,222 34	1,160 8 9	100 17 9	307 5 4
Total for 5 weeks ...	24,984	4,207 13 9	385 14 4	52,673 26	1,698 12 3	152 19 6	338 13 10
COMPARISON.							
Total for corresponding week of previous year ...	5,479	1,155 2 6½	105 17 11	15,495 20	901 7 9	82 12 0	188 10 8
Per mile of Railway corresponding week of previous year ...		41 4 1	3 15 8	553 0	32 3 2	2 19 0	6 14 8
Total to corresponding date of previous year ...	24,902	4,920 7 2½	451 2 10	48,293 26	2,271 1 6	208 3 8	639 6 6

Eastern Bengal Railway's proportion for this week has been deducted from the above.

Meteorological Telegraphic Report for the period 5th to 11th February 1870.

STATIONS.	Date.	Hour.	Barometer reduced to 32°	THERMOMETER.		Humidity Sat. = 100.	WIND.		Rain.	Weather initials.	Clouds.
				Dry.	Wet.		Direction.	Velocity.			
CALCUTTA.	Feb.		Inches.	☉	☉	•	•		Inches.		
	5th	10	29.835	77.2	69.3	66	S W	...	...	b	
	5th	16	29.730	80.0	68.3	36	W by S	...	...	b	
	6th	10	29.915	77.7	69.0	61	N N E	...	...	b	
	6th	16	29.789	84.7	65.4	30	W S W	...	...	b	
	7th	10	29.318	77.5	66.5	53	N N W	...	...	b	
	7th	16	29.808	84.5	66.0	33	S W	...	...	b	
	8th	10	29.971	71.0	68.3	87	S	...	...	b	
	8th	16	29.840	84.7	68.0	37	S W	...	...	b	
	9th	10	29.952	77.0	66.0	53	S W	...	...	b	
	9th	16	29.796	86.0	68.5	34	S W	...	...	b	
	10th	10	29.976	76.6	67.0	56	S W	...	...	b	
SAGOR ISLAND.	10th	16	29.858	86.2	69.4	39	W S W	...	...	...	K
	11th	10	30.020	76.5	67.0	58	S S W	...	...	b	
	11th	16	29.871	86.0	69.5	39	W by S	...	...	b	
	5th	10	29.854	78	72	73	S W	3	...	b	C
	5th	16	29.751	81	76	78	S W	2	...	b m	C
	6th	10	29.934	74	71	85	N N E	1	...	b m	C
	6th	16	29.806	86	69	38	N E	1	...	b m	C
	7th	10	29.941	78	70	65	W N W	1	...	b m	C
	7th	16	29.827	81	73	66	W S W	1	...	b m	C
	8th	10	29.980	77	75	90	W N W	1	...	b	
	8th	16	29.868	80	73	70	W S W	1	...	b	
	9th	10	29.957	78	73	77	W	1	...	b	
CHITTAGONG.	9th	16	29.839	82	72	59	W S W	1	...	b	
	10th	10	29.997	78	75	86	W	1	...	...	C
	10th	16	29.889	82	75	70	W	1	...	b	K
	11th	10	30.032	77	71	73	N	1	...	b	
	11th	16	29.998	84	73	66	W	1	...	b	
	5th	10	29.822	76	67	60	N W	4.2*	...	b m	
	5th	16	29.711	77	70	63	S	8.3*	...	b m	CK
	6th	10	29.721	84	75	64	S S E	7.8*	...	b m	K
	6th	16	29.729	78	72	73	S	9.7*	...	b m	
	7th	10	29.817	74	71	85	N	3.2*	...	b m	
	7th	16	29.728	79	72	69	W S W	7.2*	...	b	
	8th	10	29.822	82	69	48	N W	4.8*	...	b m	
MADRAS.	8th	16	29.747	84	67	37	N N W	8.0*	...	b m	
	9th	10	29.834	82	70	52	N N W	4.3*	...	b m	
	9th	16	29.786	83	67	39	N	6.6*	...	b m	
	10th	10	29.852	78	68	57	N N E	5.1*	...	b m	
	10th	16	29.814	86	71	40	N N W	7.0*	...	b m	C
	11th	10	29.889	80	70	53	N N W	4.4*	...	b m	
	11th	16	29.765	88	73	46	W	10.4*	...	b m	
	5th	10	29.931	80	68	51	S	3*	...	b	C
	5th	16	29.788	84	68	40	E by N	4*	...	b	C
	6th	10	29.929	81	72	62	E by N	2*	...	b	C
	6th	16	29.782	83	71	52	E S E	4*	...	b	C
	7th	10	29.320	80	72	66	S	5*	...	b	C
CUTTACK.	7th	16	29.789	80	72	66	E	7*	...	b m	C
	8th	10	29.940	83	72	56	E	5*	...	b	C
	8th	16	29.825	83	70	49	N E	6*	...	b	C
	9th	10	29.948	83	69	46	S W	6*	...	b	C
	9th	16	29.826	81	69	51	N E	8*	...	b	C
	10th	10	29.942	81	70	55	N N E	5*	...	b	C
	10th	16	29.828	81	71	50	E by N	12*	...	b	C
	11th	10	29.941	82	73	63	N	5*	...	b	C
	11th	16	29.831	83	74	63	N E	11*	...	b	C
	4th	10	29.877	75	70	76	N W	51*	...	b m	C, S
	4th	16	29.756	82	70	52	S	16.1*	...	m	C, S
	5th	10	29.831	76	69	68	W by S	6.6*	...	b m	
ARTAB.	5th	16	29.704	83	68	42	N W	6.5*	...	m	
	6th	10	29.894	76	67	60	E by N	4.6*	...	b m	
	6th	16	29.756	82	66	38	W by N	7*	...	b	
	7th	10	29.897	75	67	63	W by N	4.8*	...	b m	
	7th	16	29.738	83	64	30	W by N	10.0*	...	b m	
	8th	10	29.934	75	71	81	W	6.7*	...	f b	
	8th	16	29.783	83	68	42	N	6.5*	...	m	CS
	9th	10	29.927	76	67	60	W	4.5*	...	f b m	
	9th	16	29.765	82	67	42	S E	7.9*	...	m	CS
	10th	10	29.919	74	65	59	N	6.8*	...	b m	
	10th	16	29.805	82	68	38	S E	9.8*	...	b m	
	11th	10	29.979	74	65	59	W	7.3*	...	b m	
ARTAB.	11th	16	29.825	82	66	38	S E	13.3*	...	b m	
	5th	10	29.892	72	66	71	N E	1	...	b	K
	5th	16	29.839	77	71	73	N W	1	...	b	
	6th	10	29.935	71	65	70	N E	1	...	b	
	6th	16	29.861	80	74	74	N W	1	...	b	
	7th	10	29.912	72	66	71	N E	1	...	b	
	7th	16	29.815	82	76	74	N W	1	...	b	
	8th	10	29.937	76	70	72	N E	1	...	b	
	8th	16	29.892	83	77	75	N W	1	...	b	CS
	9th	10	29.939	73	67	71	N E	1	...	b	C, CS
	9th	16	29.783	83	77	75	N W	1	...	b	C, CS
	10th	10	29.989	73	67	71	N E	1	...	b	
	10th	16	29.837	85	79	75	N W	1	...	b	CS
	11th	10	29.939	73	67	71	N E	1	...	b	CK
	11th	16	29.853	83	77	75	N W	1	...	b	S

* Velocity of wind in miles per hour.

CALCUTTA,
The 12th February 1870.HENRY F. BLANFORD,
Meteorological Reporter to the Govt. of Bengal.

Weekly Report of Rainfall compiled at the Meteorological Reporter's Office.

Circuit.	STATIONS.	Rain from 24th to 30th Jan. 1870.	Rain from 31st Jan. to 6th Feb. 1870.	RAIN FROM 1ST JANUARY 1870.		REMARKS.
				Rain.	Up to date.	
		Inch.	Inch.	Inch.		
SOUTH-WESTERN.	Poorce ...	Nil	Not received	Nil	30th Jan. 1870.	
	False Point ...	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
	Cuttack { Telegraph Office	ditto	Nil	1.00	6th Feb. 1870.	
	{ Jail ...	ditto	ditto	1.05	ditto.	
	Sambulpore ...	ditto	Not received.	3.30	30th Jan. 1870.	
	Balasore ...	ditto	Nil	1.18	6th Feb. 1870.	
WESTERN.	Midnapore ...	Nil	Nil	0.90	6th Feb. 1870.	
	Bancoorah ...	ditto	ditto	0.35	ditto.	
	Chyebassa ...	ditto	Not received	1.50	30th Jan. 1870.	
	Purnia ...	ditto	Nil	0.87	6th Feb. 1870.	
	Burdwan ...	ditto	ditto	0.20	ditto.	
	Raneegunge ...	ditto	ditto	0.15	ditto.	
	Sooree ...	Not received	Not received	.....	.....
	Deoghur ...	Nil	Nil	0.40	6th Feb. 1870.	
	Burhee ...	ditto	ditto	0.45	ditto.	
	Hazareebaugh ...	Not received	ditto	0.10	ditto	Not received 24th to 30th Jan
CENTRAL.	Sanger Island ...	Nil	Nil	Nil	6th Feb. 1870.	
	Contai ...	Not received	Not received	.....	.....
	Calcutta ...	Nil	Nil	0.77	6th Feb. 1870.	
	Howrah ...	ditto	ditto	1.42	ditto.	
	Hooghly { Jail	ditto	ditto	1.00	ditto.	
	{ College	Not received	Not received	.....	.....
	Jessore ...	Nil	Nil	0.20	6th Feb. 1870.	
	Berhampore ...	Not received	Not received	Nil	16th Jan. 1870.	
	Farreedpore ...	Nil	Nil	ditto	6th Feb. 1870.	
	Burrisaul ...	Not received	Not received	.....	.....
	Kishnagar ...	Nil	Nil	0.16	6th Feb. 1870.	
NORTH-WESTERN.	Bhangulpore ...	Not received	Nil	0.50	6th Feb. 1870	Not received 24th to 30th Jan.
	Monghyr ...	Nil	ditto	0.16	ditto	Not received 3rd January.
	Patna ...	ditto	ditto	0.01	ditto.	
	Arrah ...	ditto	ditto	Nil	ditto.	
	Buxar ...	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
	Chuprah ...	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
	Chumparun ...	ditto	Not received	ditto	30th Jan. 1870.	
	Benares ...	Not received	ditto	ditto	23rd Jan. 1870.	
NORTHERN.	Rampore Beaulah ...	Nil	Nil	Nil	6th Feb. 1870.	
	Pubna ...	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
	Maldah ...	ditto	Not received	ditto	30th Jan. 1870.	
	Bograh ...	ditto	Nil	ditto	6th Feb. 1870	Not received 1st to 9th Jan.
	Dinagpore ...	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
	Bangpore ...	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto	Not received 10th to 23rd January.
	Julpigoree ...	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
	Buxa ...	Not received	Not received	.....	.....
	Darjeeling ...	ditto	0.38	0.38	6th Feb. 1870	Not received 24th to 30th Jan.
NORTH-EASTERN.	Gowalparah ...	Nil	Nil	Nil	6th Feb. 1870.	
	Gowhatty ...	ditto	0.30	0.30	ditto	Not received 10th to 16th Jan.
	Shillong ...	ditto	Not received	Nil	30th Jan. 1870	
	Nowgong ...	Not received	ditto	.....	.....
	Tezporc ...	Nil	ditto	Nil	30th Jan. 1870.	
	Dholebagaun ...	0.11	ditto	0.11	ditto.	
	Sebsaugor ...	Nil	ditto	Nil	ditto.	
	Debrooghur ...	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto	Not received 1st to 9th Jan.
	Samoogoodting ...	ditto	ditto	0.25	ditto.	
	Cherra Poonjee ...	Not received	ditto	.....	.....
EASTERN.	Dacca ...	Nil	Not received	Nil	30th Jan. 1870	Not received 10th to 16th Jan.
	Mymensing ...	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
	Sylhet ...	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
	Cachar ...	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
	Aemkhall Hylakandy ...	ditto	ditto	0.01	ditto.	
	Tipperah ...	ditto	ditto	0.10	ditto.	
	Noakhally ...	ditto	ditto	Nil	ditto.	
	Chittra- { Telegraph Office	ditto	Nil	.....	6th Feb. 1870.	
	{ Jail ...	ditto	Not received	ditto	30th Jan. 1870.	
	Rangamata Hill ...	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto	
SOUTH-EASTERN.						
	Akyab ...	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	

CALCUTTA,
The 12th February 1870. }

HENRY F. BLANFORD,
Meteorological Reporter to the Govt. of Bengal.